Daily Blog Greatest Hits

Gerry's Daily Blog

Featured Coins of the Day

1880-CC PCGS AU55 CAC G$5
Osprey $6750SOLD

1873 PCGS AU53 CAC 25C
White Pine $525

1838-O F-102 PCGS MS64+ CAC 10C
Denver $16000

1874-S Briggs 1-A PCGS MS66 CAC 25C
Denver $6000

1807 O-111a PCGS VF25 CAC 50C
$3850

1875 F-103 PCGS MS65 CAC 10C
Newtown $700

Gerry's Daily Blog Archives - September 2021

September 30, 2021

NH Coin Expo Show Time - GFRC at Table 606

and

Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Bidding Closes Saturday!

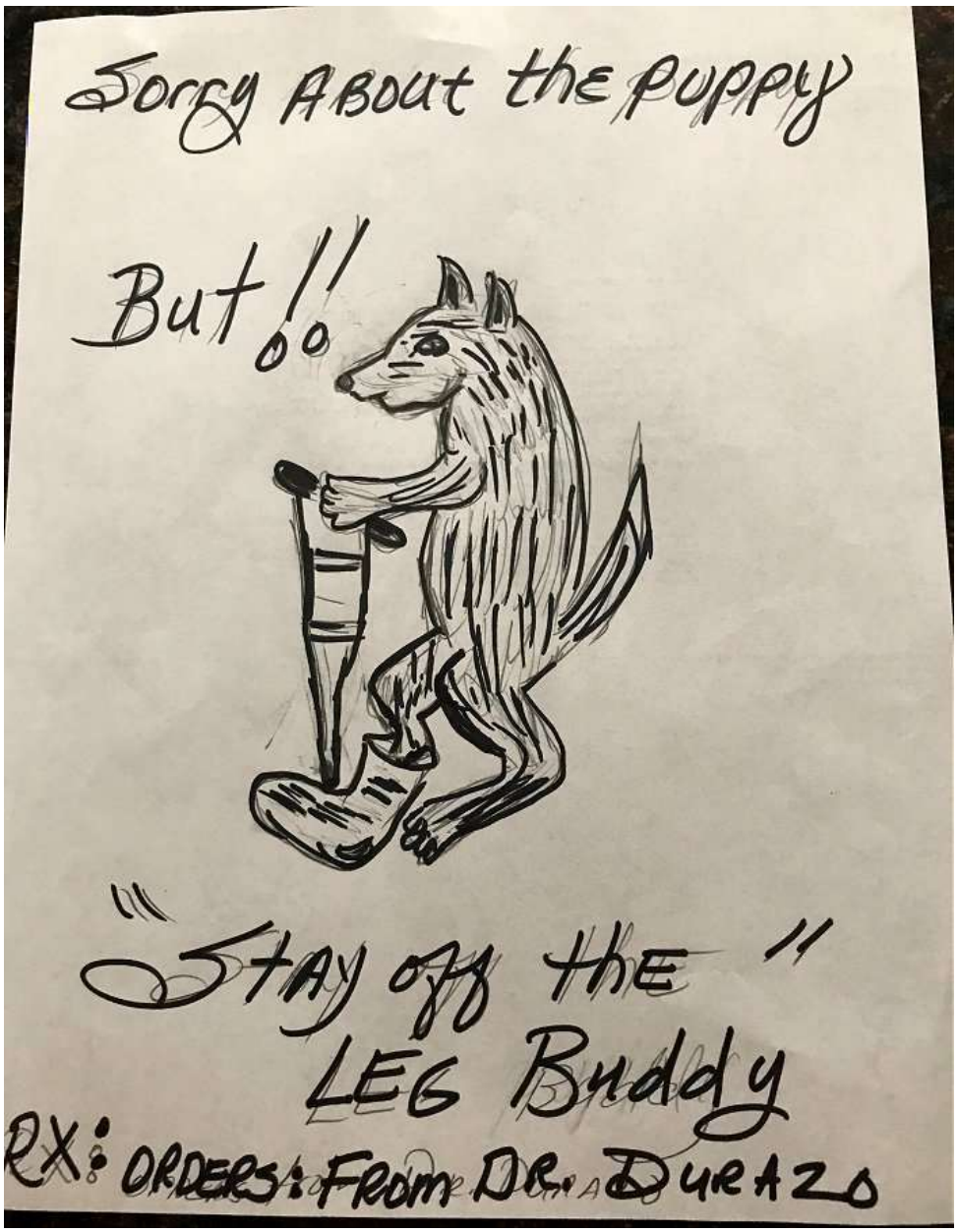
Greetings on a Thursday morning and welcome to a pre-NH Coin Expo edition.

Southern Maine weather is quickly cooling as October 1 arrives tomorrow. Wearing comfortable shorts is no longer possible as overnight temps dip into the mid 40s. Daytime highs are only in the mid 60s. Once back from Manchester NH, the wood stove will be cleaned and prepared for wood burning season. This is the cycle of life in northern New England.

Wednesday brought a long day in the office. Inventories were carefully packed to ensure that no lay-a-way items are mistakenly brought the show. While packing, it become apparent that certain product lines have been oversold and not replaced during this hot market. GFRC is in need of quality Capped Bust halves, Seated quarters, and Seated halves as a first priority. Consigned lots are being sold as quickly as posted. Remaining unsold lots from the GFRC Online Auctions platform are also selling at the reserve prices. Hopefully, there will be opportunities at the Manchester show to selectively add fresh inventory.

Buddy the Dog continues down his recovery path with outstanding nursing by Diane. Each afternoon is allocated to time on the couch as both watch TV together.

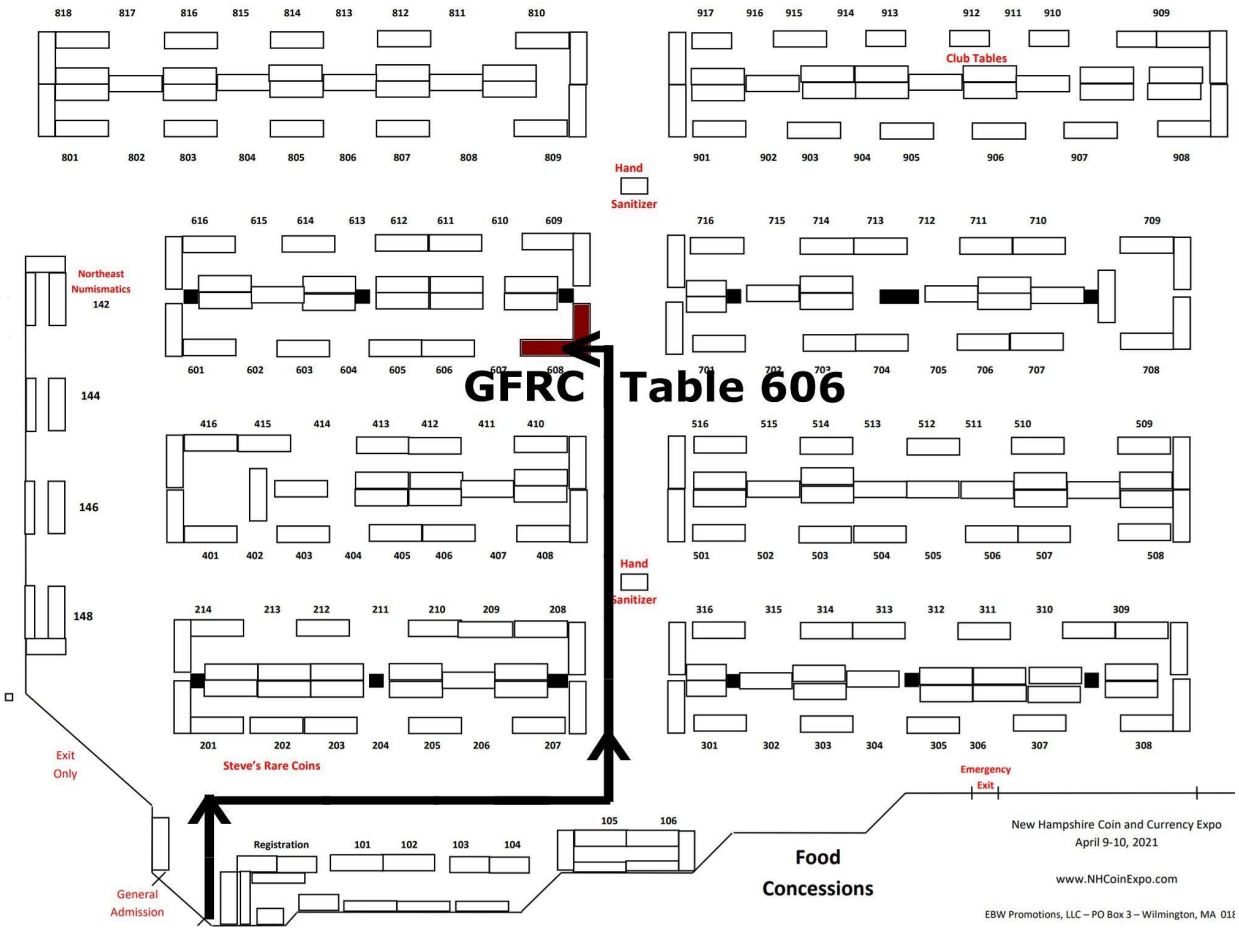
I awoke this morning to find an email from Dr. Durazo with a new piece of artwork reinforcing Buddy's need to stay off his rear leg for a problem free recovery. Susan's artistry has become a regular Blog segment!



NH Coin Expo Show Time - GFRC at Table 606

Manchester show setup begins at 3:00 PM today. Dan and I are ready for the dealer setup and "wholesale buying" session before the show formally opens to the public on Friday morning. The term "wholesale buying" has been rendered meaningless in today's hot numismatic market. Dealers are routinely selling at one bottom line price as is the case for GFRC. if dealers can find some profit at an offer price, then a coin is added to inventory. Wholesale buying has migrated into intelligent buying based on a coin's overall quality and the asking price. Inferior coins brought to a coin show will typically be brought back to dealer offices unless discounted for deficiencies.

As a final reminder, GFRC will be positioned at Table 606 with a combination of black and blue table covers and the new GFRC Online Auctions table runner. Here is our location on the NH Coin Expo bourse floor.



After packing ten double row slabbed boxes with inventory, I can honestly report that GFRC will have the most comprehensive display of quality Bust, Liberty Seated, and U.S. gold on the bourse floor. CAC approved coins will total over 200+ pieces which, if all placed together in display cases, would populate three complete showcases. The U.S. gold offerings will be particularly strong.

There will be a GFRC Online Auctions showcase with the Oregon Beaver Part 2 lots and the Tennessee Seated Dollar Collection for your view pleasure.

Dan and I look forward to visits from our New England customer base and fellow dealers. It should be a busy show at Table 606.

Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Bidding Closes Saturday 9:00 PM!

Since being consumed by long days on the NH Coin Expo bourse floor, Friday and Saturday morning Blog editions will be shorter than normal. There is the need to have breakfast and return to the bourse by 8:00 AM leaving little time for Blog composition.

Therefore, I wish to remind everyone that bidding for the Oregon Beaver Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale lots will wrap up at 9:00 PM this Saturday. Yesterday's *contemplation period* brought no bidding but that will quickly change starting on Friday afternoon and into Saturday. I will be back on the office on Saturday evening by 8:00 PM to take in the auction's final hour. Invoices for won lots will be promptly emailed on Sunday.

Global Financial News

U.S. equity market uneasiness along with trader anxieties is being tied to higher interest rates by the financial media. Secondly, there is the ongoing uncertainties about sane minds in Washington DC as the annual federal budget expires, the debt ceiling requiring an extension, along with a Democratic spending fest that brings back memories of Obamacre and Nancy's famous line of "passing the bill in order to learn what is in it". Yes, I paraphrased.

However, lurking in the wings is a substantial issue that is garnering little attention in the mainstream media. Global supply chains are under intense pressure after the Covid-19 pandemic. That pressure translate into shortages of most everything that is produced in a foreign country and requires international transport. Natural gas prices are quickly climbing in Europe as an example with more energy cost increases in the wings. All this translate into higher inflation

moving forward. The Federal Reserve and those in Washington are attempting to calm fears by calling inflation "transitory", another vague usage of the English language to mute reaction to a serious problem.

Therefore, the Federal Reserve will have no choice but to come clean on inflation by early 2022 and raise interest rates. The massive proposed spending bills designed to juice the economy with social spending will add fuel to the inflation fire. No wonder investors are worried.

Morning market futures are forecasting a 0.6% positive open but the current trend is to see that optimism evaporating through the trading day.

In Asia, Japan -0.3%. Hong Kong -0.4%. China +0.9%. India -0.5%.

In Europe, at midday, London +0.2%. Paris flat. Frankfurt -0.3%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow +0.6%. S&P +0.6%. NASDAQ +0.6%.

Paper gold pricing continues its downward slide with a morning quote of $1725/oz. One important question is whether gold prices will breakdown and drop into the $1600 range during October. Higher interest rates are a strong headwind for gold prices.

WTI crude is trading just shy of the $75 level and with my personal expectations for higher prices. Bitcoin is holding at $42,937 but is also displaying the same weakness as gold's technical chart. I would not be long gold and Bitcoin at the present time.

The current 10 Year U.S. Treasury yield stands at 1.51% which is not a huge move from the past several month's positioning.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Let's get the Blog published early to allow for a quick shower and responding to overnight orders that require some inventory items to be located in packed double row boxes and left behind in the office. Afterwards, final packing takes place followed by driving to Manchester NH.

Thank-you for checking in at the Daily Blog. Be well!

September 29, 2021

Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Update

and

Preparing GFRC Inventories for the NH Coin Expo

Greetings once again and welcome to the Daily Blog. Your ongoing visits are appreciated.

Seriously, today's Blog edition will be brief as there remains much to accomplish in the office before leaving for the Manchester NH coin show tomorrow morning. September 29 also brings a special person's birthday to celebrate and honor.

Buddy the Dog's second and larger cage arrived on Tuesday. His accommodations have improved including afternoon's with Diane on the coach watching TV. His ACL repair recovery is moving along as planned. All is good here.

Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Update

The Oregon Beaver Part 1 Auction Sale traverses the mid-point today. The *contemplation period* is allowing time for more individuals to consider the importance of the offered Liberty Seated Half Dollar lots with incremental bidding taking place.

A quick pre-Blog composition tally indicates that 15/26 lots have met their reserve bids along with several lots seeing multiple bids. Total sales, at the auction's mid-point, stands at ~ $20,000.

Following are the two lots seeing spirited bidding. I'm not the least bit surprised that the gem 1863 PCGS AU50 half is garnering well deserved attention.

1862 PCGS AU55 50C **1863 PCGS AU50 CAC 50C**

Several Quality Barber Offerings to Consider

Gaining access to quality Barber coinage inventory is an ongoing challenge. However, the past week saw three nice pieces arriving into inventory prior to the NH Coin Expo. The following offerings are available and priced, but not loaded to the price list. If not sold today, they will be part of the Manchester coin show inventory.

Several Quality Barber Coinage Offerings to Consider

Please Email for Price Quote

1892-S PCGS AU58 CAC 10C

1893-O PCGS AU53 25C **1913-D PCGS MS62 25C**

Preparing GFRC Inventories for the NH Coin Expo

Many collectors probably think the life of a coin dealer is straightforward and glamorous. Well, I hate to disappoint on that notion. The life of a coin dealer requires an intense focus on details. Managing inventories along with orders and shipment client communications is just one aspect of the job. If selling early silver type, there are complexities with accurate variety attributions as an incorrect attribution could lead to a return. Add in marketing, sales, and website management tasks to round out the responsibilities.

Today brings the pulling of coins from regular online inventory for the NH Coin Expo. It is impossible to fit all GFRC inventory into eight showcases including displaying forthcoming GFRC Online Auctions auction lots. Therefore the emphasis will be on CAC approved coins which alone amount to 250 pieces. My task is selecting the appropriate amount of coins (CAC and non-CAC) that will fit into the available show cases. Pricing stickers must be accurate as sales will be on a net basis. Having the sticker price as the offer price without haggling helps with time management as Dan and I expect to be very busy at this show. Buying has become just as important as selling, if not more important. I know that some customer enjoying haggling as a sport. Unfortunately, I don't share that same passion given a multi-tasking workload that requires careful time management.

There are also order pick-ups at the show with invoicing and a consignment return to prepare and document. Let's not forget the accessories for a successful show including electronics, power cords, table covers etc. Come the end of the day, a carefully prepared checklist is reviewed to ensure that essentials are not left behind.

If calling into the GFRC office today, please understand that my availability will be limited. Thanks for the understanding.

Global Financial News

U.S. equity markets were down roughly 1.5% on Tuesday. Traders are becoming anxious with a looming debt ceiling crisis, ramping interest rates, and growing inflation as many supply chains are disrupted by transport manpower issues. The political theater in DC is also not reassuring along with a media that capitalizes on fear for clickbait headlines.

Morning market futures are flashing green as those who buy the dip will be shopping for bargains when the market opens. The question is that of momentum through the balance of the day once the bargain hunters are done.

In Asia, Japan -2.1%. Hong Kong +0.7%. China -1.8%. India -0.4%.

In Europe, at midday, London +0.9%. Paris +1.2%. Frankfurt +1%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow +0.6%. S&P +0.8%. NASDAQ +1%.

The all important 10 Year U.S. Treasury bond yield has settled down to 1.5% at least for the time being. Ditto for WTI crude oil pricing at $74.70/bbl.

Paper gold is flat at $1745/oz while Bitcoin has fallen further to $42406.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Let's close this Blog edition now as morning shipping becomes the next priority of the day.

Thanks again for visiting. Be well!

September 28, 2021

Oregon Beaver's *Part 2 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Lots

Quality Silver Commemorative Halves from the Washington State Collection

and

"Bertha's" Silver Franklin Halves

Greetings and welcome to the Daily Blog on a Tuesday morning. Your ongoing visits are appreciated!

Preparing for the looming NH Coin Expo is on my mind along with the Oregon Beaver's *Part 2 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale*. When managing a vibrant business, there are always project deadlines to meet among the many facets of a day's activities. Speaking of a day's activities, a portion of Monday afternoon was allocated to the Ledge Hill Trails project. There I was out on the woods with chipmunks everywhere scrambling about collecting acorns. The JD2025R front loader and backhoe had been greased and were in fine working order. The emphasis was the northern walking trail with a decent length seeing applied 1.5" gravel after the backhoe unearthed remaining rocks. The Deere tractor has accumulated 116 hours of usage since May delivery.

Speaking of the Oregon Beaver's *Part 2 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale,* the online catalog will be published on October 5 with lots open for bidding on October 16. Contents of the Part 2 sale have been posted at the traditional upper right corner of today's Blog. You are invited to scroll the table and preview the forthcoming Part 2 auction sale offerings.

I keep checking Seth Godin's blogpost for fresh content but nothing is catching my attention.

Buddy the Dog is moving along his recovery path. Diane is an outstanding nurse and ensuring that Buddy has the correct meds and time outside the cage. Today brings the delivery of a second larger cage for the living room. Gone will be the need to move the veterinarian provided cage between the bedroom and living room. This was a must get done task since I leave for the Manchester NH show on Thursday morning.

Oregon Beaver's *Part 2 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Lots

The Oregon Beaver's *Part 2 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* is approaching quickly. Once the Part 1 Sale closes this coming Saturday evening, the Part 2 online catalog will be published on October 5 with lots open for bidding on October 16. Contents of the Part 2 sale have been posted at the traditional upper right corner of today's Blog.

Following are several headline lots to whet your appetite for the next round of superb Oregon Beaver Liberty Seated halves.

1841-O WB-1 PCGS MS63 CAC 50C

1842-O Small Date WB-2 PCGS AU50 50C

1846 6/Horiz 6 WB-7 PCGS AU55 50C **1851-O WB-4 PCGS MS64 50C**

1866 Motto PCGS MS63 50C **1878-CC WB-1 PCGS AU50 50C**

Quality Silver Commemorative Halves from the Washington State Collection

GFRC is pleased to be presenting the final installment from the important Washington State Collection consignment. Though GFRC is not known for handling early silver commemorative halves, the following lot is certainty a step forward with quality stocking inventory. CAC approvals abound across the lot along with some better issues and grades. Nearly all are nicely toned and attractive examples.

Look for this entire lot to reach the price list today. All will be brought to the NH Coin Expo as I don't expect a huge amount of immediate online orders.

Quality Silver Commemorative Halves from the Washington State Collection

Please Email for Offer Prices - Posting to Price List on Tuesday

1915-S Pan-Pacific PCGS MS66 CAC 50C

1923-S Monroe PCGS MS65 CAC 50C

1925-S California PCGS MS65 50C

1928 Oregon PCGS MS67 CAC 50C **1937 Roanoke PCGS MS66 CAC 50C**

1920 Pilgrim PCGS MS65 50C **1921 Pilgrim PCGS MS65 50C CAC 50C** **1927 Vermont PCGS MS65**

1934 Maryland PCGS MS66 CAC 50C **1934 Boone NGC MS66 CAC 50C**

"Bertha's" Silver Franklin Halves

The roll-out of "Bertha's" 1950s circulation picks continues today. Bertha is Roger Theriault (one of Diane's old brothers) mother-in-law who passed away recently at 91 years of age. Instead of taking Bertha's cherished coins to a local coin shop, GFRC hopes to maintain these Whitman folder collections together by offering at spot silver pricing.

Today brings the Franklin halves from 1948 through 1962 with several missing dates. The Whitman folder are copyrighted 1948 with the last printed date being 1956. The folder is mostly populated through 1962 with the latter years being nice AUs. Fortunately, Bertha did not clean or enhance her coins. All are nice and original as removed from circulation. Asking price for the lot is $270 shipped via Medium size USPS Priority box. Clicking on the below image provides access to a 4Meg high resolution image for closer inspection.

SOLD!

Bertha's Washington Quarter Collection - 29 Pieces Priced at $270 Shipped

Global Financial News

The substantial news of the day is that energy prices (natural gas and crude oil) are quickly moving upward along with the 10 Year U.S. Treasury bond yield. Conversely, U.S. markets are flashing losses at today's 9:30 AM opening bell. Following are morning market futures courtesy of Seeking Alpha.

In Asia, Japan -0.19%. Hong Kong +1.20%. China +0.54%. India -1.63%.

In Europe, at midday, London -0.34%. Paris -1.22%. Frankfurt -0.78%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow -0.31%. S&P -0.66%. NASDAQ -1.31%.

WTI crude pricing is moving up at roughly a $1 per barrel pace with this morning's quote at $76.23. The 10 Year Treasury yield is up to 1.52%

Paper gold pricing is slowly receding at $1743/oz with Bitcoin also falling to $41866. Investors are in a sour mood of late.

Following is a short Seeking Alpha piece with respect to surging natural gas prices.

U.S. natural gas prices soared to their highest level in more than seven-and-a-half years, with traders citing contagion fears as gas and other energy shortages sweep Europe and Asia, which is leading to heavier demand for U.S. liquefied natural gas.

Front-month gas futures for October delivery settled up 11% to $5.706/MMBtu, the highest closing price since February 2014 and the contract's biggest daily percentage gain since this February's Texas freeze.

"Spectacular prices around the world are feeding into the sentiment here," Again Capital's John Kilduff tells Reuters, adding that "gas as a commodity is getting repriced" and "now that we've hit these price heights, it will be easy to do it again."

Wrapping Up The Blog

Today brings an overcast day with an ongoing probability of rain. Given the substantial GFRC workload, I will be staying put in the office throughout the day.

Look for the Washington State Collection early silver commems to reach the price list by this afternoon.

Thank-you for stopping by at the Daily Blog. Be well!

September 27, 2021

Strong Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Bidding

Manchester NH Coin Show Week Arrives

and

Autumn 2021 - Second Coastal Horizon Foliage Report

Greetings on a Monday morning and welcome to more GFRC and homestead updates. Thanks for stopping by.

As the Blog is composed, Raymond temperature is a cool 46F which is the new normal for overnight readings during the coming week. This is no surprise as October is just around the corner. By the beginning of the November, the first snow event of the 2021-2022 winter could appear at any time. October brings a month of preparations including cleaning the wood stove, raking leaves, oil changes for the lawn tractor and Honda generator, fuel additives, and preparing the JD2025R for winter storage.

Buddy the Dog is doing fine with his healing routine. A second dog cage is due to arrive on Tuesday which eliminates the need to move the current cage from the upstairs bedroom to the living and back each day. On Sunday, Buddy secured a *get out of jail card* and was allow to quietly rest next to Diane on the living room couch while they watched HGTV.

Concerning GFRC consignment news, two new consignments were committed on Sunday. The first is another 20 piece installment from the Twin Lakes Collection including an important AU58 CAC Civil War Seated dime offering. Sorry, no First Rights of Refusal will be accepted due to the mention. Yet another GFRC client turns into a consignor with a six piece lot that will ship this week. 26 fresh coins will be available for the price list after the NH Coin Expo along with show new purchases to kick-start October sales.

Strong Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Bidding

I could not be more pleased with the initial Oregon Beaver Part 1 auction sale bidding that took place on Saturday evening and throughout Sunday.

As of this morning, 12 of the 26 offered lots are heading to new collector homes with approximately $18,000 in bids. A 46% bid rate during an early auction sale is excellent. Several of yesterday's recommended coins, as featured in the Blog, saw bidding action.

This Oregon Beaver auction now enters a *contemplation period* that will last through Thursday. Liberty Seated half dollar collectors will have four days to consider their next steps towards winning these quality lots. Following are six quality unattached lots for your consideration. Someone should take home the 1840 WB-1 half as such an amazing piece. i would entertain special payment terms given the five figure price.

Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* - Available Lots

1840 WB-1, Rev of 1839, PCGS MS65 CAC 50C

1846 MD WB-10 PCGS AU50 CAC 50C

1846-O WB-5 Medium Date PCGS MS64 50C

1859-O WB-10 PCGS AU55 CAC 50C

1871-CC WB-6 NGC VF30 50C

1873-CC Arrows WB-4 NGC AU58 50C

Manchester NH Coin Show Week Arrives

The long awaited and highly anticipated NH Coin Expo arrives this week. The "Manchester Show" is an excellent northern New England event that attracts dealers from as far south as New York, Maryland, and Virginia. Looking at the online dealer list, the expanded bourse floor appears to be completely sold out.

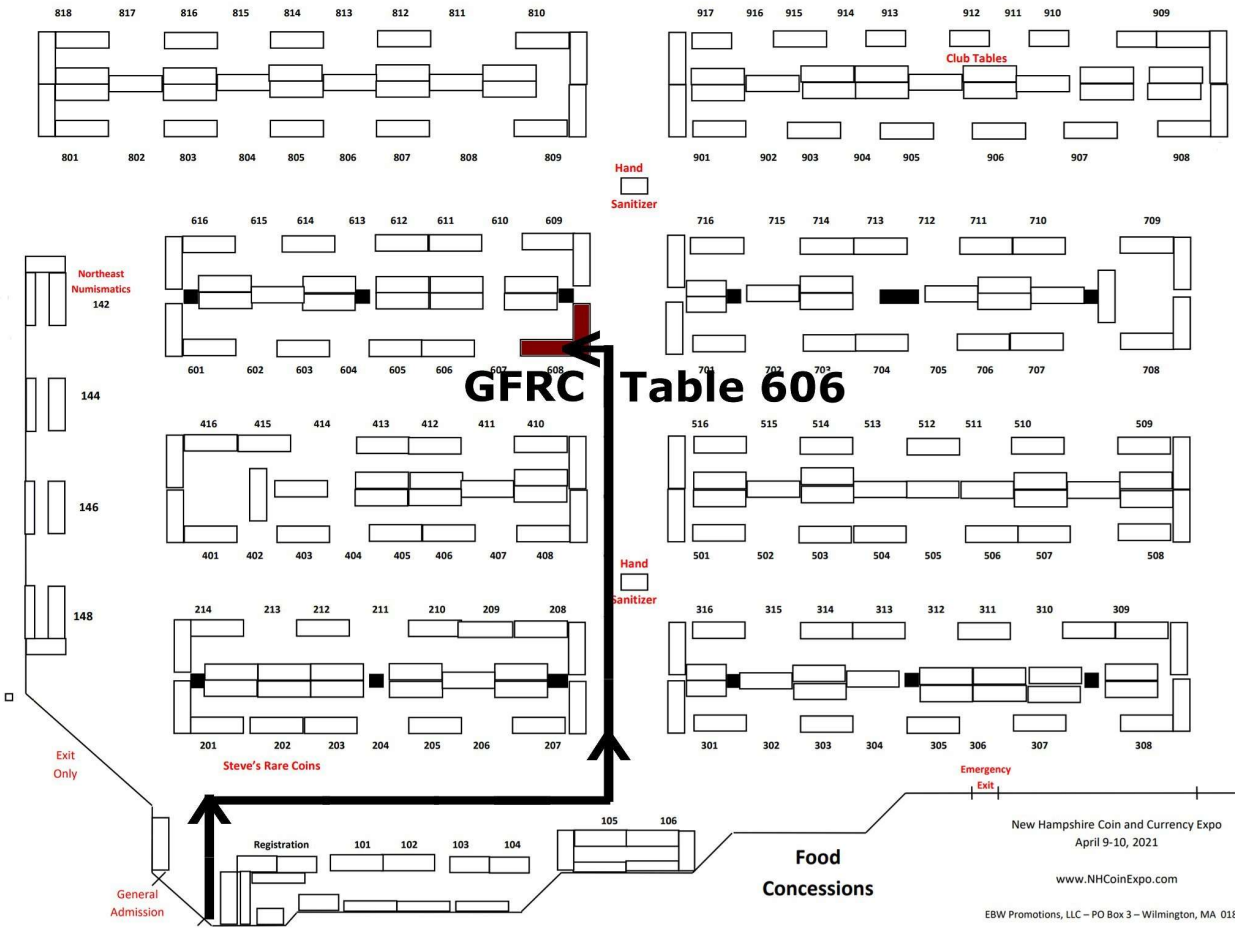
GFRC will be located at Table 606 per the below bourse floor map. I will be debuting the new GFRC Online Auctions table runner and cover along with displaying the Oregon Beaver Collection's *Part 2 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* lots and the *Tennessee Seated Dollar Collection.*

Dan White will be walking the floor during Thursday setup with instructions to buy quality coins that fit the GFRC inventory profile. Come Friday and Saturday, the focus shifts to client. I am in a buying mood if the offered quality is there. If considering selling coins to GFRC, please make the process straight forward by having play/pass asking prices ready. I will tender quick decisions for your offered coins. Sorry, GFRC is no longer buying raw coins or those in Details holders.

GFRC clients can expect to find a wide range of quality early type and U.S. gold at Booth 606. All CAC approved coins will be net priced with no wiggle room or discounting.

GFRC Table 606 at Fall New Hampshire Coin Expo

September 30 - October 2, 2021



Autumn 2021 - Second Coastal Horizon Foliage Report

After early morning rains passed through, Sunday brought a perfect autumn afternoon with bright sunshine. The weather conditions were ideal for snapping a back acreage image to document this year's foliage color transition.

The September 26 image reveals a limited amount of incremental coloring from the prior week. If inspecting the new image carefully, additional yellows and reds can be seen at the tree tops immediately below the horizon. The color intensity of the maple at the main pathway's end has also increased.

Updated Coastal Horizon Foliage Report - September 26, 2021

Click on Image for High Resolution Enjoyment!

Initial Coastal Horizon Foliage Report - September 19, 2021

Click on Image for High Resolution Enjoyment!

Global Financial News

Get ready for a week of U.S. debt ceiling hysteria and blotted spending bill financial news coverage. The media will love the event for attention and ratings. Global equity markets are taking the U.S. theatrics in stride with positive market futures to start a new trading week. U.S. markets are due to open with a positive bias other than the NADAQ.

In Asia, Japan -0.03%. Hong Kong +0.07%. China -0.84%. India +0.06%.

In Europe, at midday, London +0.26%. Paris +0.52%. Frankfurt +0.66%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow +0.32%. S&P +0.10%. NASDAQ -0.27%.

We have new dynamics underway with respect to commodities and interest rates. The 10 Year Treasury bond yield is on the move with a morning quote of 1.49%. Increasing interest rates are the result of lower demand/prices for Treasuries during an uncertain period of U.S fiscal responsibility.

WTI crude oil prices continue their increase with a morning quote of nearly $75/bbl. We were in the high $60s just ten days ago.

Paper gold continues its pricing weakness at $1746 per ounce. Gold's technical trend chart is now in a pole and pennant configuration. I'll explore that topic in the next 48 hours. Bitcoin stands at $43672.

Wrapping Up The Blog

GFRC sales were especially strong this weekend along with a reasonable number of incoming check payments. This translates into a substantial amount of shipping this morning.

During the weekend, I was able to raise the 30 Day Price List to the 60 piece level while experiencing strong Washington State Collection sales. There are many more coins to be loaded before shifting focus to NH Coin Expo preparations come Wednesday.

That about wraps up my ramblings for another day. Thanks again for checking in. Be well.

September 26, 2021

Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Open for Bidding

Washington State Collection - Part 2 Offerings

and

More GFRC New Purchases to Consider

Greetings on a wet southern Maine morning and welcome to another Daily Blog edition.

Nursing a small dog with fresh ACL reconstruction surgery is challenging as we are learning. The doctor gave strict orders that Buddy cannot be allow to walk on his own for two weeks followed by another six weeks of cautious strength building and absolutely no jumping.

For two weeks, Buddy must stay in a small cage with a neck shroud to prevent his licking the stitched leg. He must be picked up from the cage and carried outside three times per day. Complicating his bio relief pattern is the multiple medications that include antibiotics and antidepressants. You would be depressed too if living in a cage for two weeks with a neck shroud. At the moment, I am moving the heavy cage from the living room to bedroom twice per day. With the upcoming NH Coin Expo and my absence, Diane must locate a second cage pronto.

Saturday brought a beautiful autumn day which translated into time on the JD2025R. Layering 1.5" stone and gravel has begun on the northern trail with learnings from the initial southern trail effort. One important learning is that surface rocks must be removed even if appearing harmless on a walking trail. When moving about on a graveled trail with the tractor, the heavy weight moves the gravel away from the protruding rock. The outcome is a bumpy ride as the protruding rocks are traversed, especially when carrying a full load of material in the front bucket.

Rain is forecasted through early afternoon followed by the return of sunny conditions for the upcoming week. I'm looking forward to the drive to Manchester, NH come Thursday as autumn colors will abound.

Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Open for Bidding

Bidding opened on Saturday evening for the Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale*. So far, 7 of the 26 lots have initial bids totaling about $9,000. I'm certain that more bids will arrive today on in the coming days based on conversations with clients.

Following are several unattached lots that warrant your potential considerations.

Oregon Beaver's *Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* - Available Lots

1840 WB-1, Rev of 1839, PCGS MS65 CAC 50C

1845 WB-2 PCGS AU58 CAC 50C

1846-O WB-5 Medium Date PCGS MS64 50C **1847 WB-6 PCGS MS63 50C**

1863 PCGS AU50 50C **1871-CC WB-6 NGC VF30 50C**

Washington State Collection - Part 2 Offerings

Saturday brought ongoing attention to the Washington State Collection consignment and the second installment of large denominations.

Showcasing the half dollar and dollar denominations is an exceptional 1865 proof dollar certified PCGS PR64+ with CAC approval. The below images provide a reasonable illustration of the beautiful coloration. The 1806/5 and 1839 No Drapery halves were purchased from GFRC with sales records available in the Sales Archive. The new offerings conclude with two awesome Mint State Liberty Seated halves; 1840 WB-5 PCGS MS65 CAC and 1849 WB-11 PCGS MS64 CAC.

If not spoken for by Thursday, these Washington State Collection pieces will be available for inspection and viewing at the NH Coin Expo. Price list posting will take place this morning.

Washington State Collection - Part 2 Offerings

Exceptional 1865 Proof Seated Dollar

1865 PCGS PR64+ CAC $1 - Priced at $10,000

1806/5 O-101 PCGS VF25 CAC 50C **1839 No Drap PCGS EF45 CAC 50C**

1840 WB-5 PCGS MS65 CAC 50C **1849 WB-11 PCGS MS64 CAC 50C**

GFRC New Purchases to Consider

Buying coins from collectors and fellow dealers has become a routine event as the GFRC business further expands. The past week saw the purchase of two quality lots. Following are four pieces that highlight some of the new purchases. All four newps will be posted to the price list this morning. The 1876 dime is a real sweetheart with a date position that is the furthest right seen to date. Yes, I will add this one to the web-book.

More GFRC New Purchases to Consider

1876 Unlisted PCGS MS66 CAC 10C **1875 BF-1 PCGS AU55 20C**

1889-CC PCGS VF25 $1 **1895-S VAM-3 S/S PCGS VF25 $1**

Wrapping Up The Blog

While composing today's edition, Buddy the Dog has been successful moved from the bedroom to the living along with the first outdoor bio visit of the day. He has taken his meds with all being well.

It might be Sunday, but today brings a long day in the GFRC office loading Washington State and new purchases to the price list along with two Liberty Seated dime web-book updates to allow the sale of the plate coins.

Please don't be bashful with a new purchase via email or phone call. Consignments are always being solicited too.

Wishing everyone a peaceful Sunday. Be well!

September 25, 2021

The Long Wait is Over! Oregon Beaver Collection Bidding Opens at 9:00 PM ET

Washington State Collection - Crusty Silver Type to Consider

and

Buddy the Dog's Two Month Recovery

Greetings and welcome to the Daily Blog on a late September Saturday morning.

The autumn season is quickly progressing as daytime temperatures continue to recede with cooler overnights. A rainy Friday kept me in the GFRC office with much price list posting progress. Nearly all the featured Washington State Collection type coins can be found on the price list as of this morning. But let's remember that this is only the first installment. This afternoon brings another image processing session for the halves, dollars, and early silver commemoratives. The goal, to have all Washington State Collection pieces available for the NH Coin Expo showcases, will be met. The question is whether any of the fantastic offerings will still be around for the Manchester show. Already online orders are ramping with the 1875 proof double dime, the amazing proof 1860 Seated dime, and the top end 1888 PCGS MS67 Seated quarter finding new home among well establish GFRC community members.

Weather.com is indicating a quiet weather period for Saturday morning followed by more rain that arrives during the early afternoon hours. Dave Wilkinson brought more 1.5" stone and gravel on Friday which means a few hours on the JD2025R could be warranted as ongoing work/life balance. The clock is quickly running out on the Ledge Hill Trails project as November approaches.

Otherwise, the GFRC office is chocked full of new inventory that is turning over quickly once posted to the price list. The 30 Day Price List has grown to 56 pieces in the face of robust sales demand. I'm committed to the 100 piece goal and will continue to load new purchases and consigned items as quickly as possible while not compromising image and description quality standards.

The Long Wait is Over! Oregon Beaver Collection Bidding Opens at 9:00 PM ET

Yes, that is correct! The long preview period for the first installment of the Oregon Beaver's *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* is over. Bidding opens at 9:00 PM ET this evening.

Liberty Seated half dollar fans have had several weeks to contemplate their selections and bidding strategies. If GFRC Online Auctions history repeats itself, there will be an initial round of spirited bidding this evening and throughout Sunday. Come next week, the quiet period sets in until Friday. Saturday will bring another auction crescendo as we learn which collectors will successfully acquire these important duplicates.

To properly place the Oregon Beaver Collection auction in context, I suggest that you visit other dealer websites to benchmark the number of Liberty Seated halves being offered. This auction's significance should become immediately apparent.

As an ongoing reminder, please carefully consider your maximum bids as the GFRC Online Auction software is bid centric. We do not associate and track individuals bids by client. Each bid is a unique event which means that placing a new maximum bid on top of an existing bid results in bidding against yourself. Please rest assured that I constantly check for these events and advise bidders of these situations. Removing the early bids is possible but being communications intensive with Matt Yamatin residing in Beijing. Therefore please be thoughtful when placing a maximum bid. The GFRC software will automatically bid against that maximum bid on your behalf.

Thank-you for your forthcoming involvement with the first of two exciting Oregon Beaver sales.

Washington State Collection - Crusty Silver Type to Consider

I'm going to be so sad once all the Washington State Collection consigned pieces have been processed and loaded to the price list. What a pleasure it is to handle and carefully release this premium consignment to the price list.

Following are three additional early quarters and halves that fall into the "crusty" category. Why not showcase them together as a mini-gallery in the Blog?

Please pay attention to the 1849 Briggs 3-B quarter as this is a significant opportunity. CAC population is only three at the MS63 level with six finer at much higher pricing levels. Following is the price list description.

From the Washington State Collection comes an important 1849 Briggs 3-B Seated quarter that will be on many want lists. CAC approval was 100% warranted given the crusty rose-olive gray patina that still allows ample amounts of steely luster to radiate under minimal lighting. Bright light viewing is a joy as coloring shifts to light rose with peripheral aquamarine. Fields are unabraded and pleasing during a 10x review. A faint die crack through the bottom of the date digits easily identifies Obverse 3 while the 45 degree angled die polish lines into (QUA)R validate Reverse B. How refreshing to see this non-Compass Point specimen at such a high grade and with superb preservation. Housed in NGC Gen 9 (2001-2003) holder with CAC approval.

As expected, the 1845 NGC AU55 CAC example promptly sold within minutes of being posted. The 1837 Reeded Edge half is a former GFRC purchase with improved images.

Washington State Collection - Crusty Silver Type to Consider

1849 Briggs 3-B NGC MS63 CAC 25C

1845 Briggs 2-B NGC AU55 CAC 25C

1837 RE PCGS AU50 50C

Buddy the Dog's Two Month Recovery

Diane and I are pleased to report that Buddy's ACL repair surgery went well on Friday. We were fortunate to have a canceled appointment resulting in Buddy's surgery being moved up to yesterday. As we learned, the recovery period is two months with a final doctor's appointment possible before transitioning to Florida for the winter months.

The recovery period will be rough for Buddy. To ensure that Buddy does not use his hind leg for jumping and running, he must be kept in a large crate and transported outdoors for his three times per day bio needs. Diane will be his nurse and staying close to home through the Thanksgiving time frame. Once Buddy is certified for normal activities, we will head to our Venice home.

Consignments Being Actively Solicited!

The market for quality early type remains robust and shows no signs of letting up. The typically quiet month of September has been a gang buster month for GFRC with record sales. Everyone is well aware that I am struggling to keep inventory levels up due to demand. Rather than raise prices, I'm pricing new coins fairly for quick turnarounds in the hopes that clients will release duplicates back to GFRC. An active and vibrant collector market is best for the hobby!

With November Baltimore and the January FUN shows on the horizon, GFRC will need even more inventory to maintain sales momentum. This is where the community can help. I'm in need of quality (no Details grades) early type if you are inclined to work with me.

Presently, the GFRC consignment queue holds a new Liberty Seated dime and $10 gold consignment from the AuburnNY Accordian Collection and some low priced raw Capped Bust half dimes from the Thinning the Herd Collection. If completely out of inventory, I can fall back on Seated dimes from my personal reference collection and market acceptable Seated halves from two Dansco albums.

The GFRC Online Auctions platform has the Part 2 Oregon Beaver Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale queued for release once the Part 1 sale closes next Saturday. Work begins this weekend on the Tennessee Seated Dollar Collection that will be showcased at the NH Coin Expo starting on Thursday.

Come the November time-frame, GFRC will require another 100-200 fresh coins before the January FUN show including a wide open auction platform window.

If wishing to explore consignment possibilities, I'm just a phone call or email away.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Saturday morning brings a limited amount of shipping followed by a full afternoon in the office when forecasted rainy conditions return. Once the shipping is queued for Diane, I will spend a few hours on the JD2025R and begin working on smoothing out the entry section of the northern trail. The northern trail is rough and will need much attention during the October time frame to remove protruding roots and remaining rocks.

I believe that is all that can be shared at the moment. Thank-you for checking in at the Daily Blog. Be well.

September 24, 2021

The Amazing Washington State Type Collection - Part 1

Oregon Beaver's *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* - Bidding Starts Tomorrow!

"Bertha's" Silver Washington Quarters

and

Buddy the Dog Gets an ACL Repair

Greetings on a Friday morning. Welcome to the 2127th edition of the Daily Blog! I'm not counting however...

Checking in at the Blog might be synonymous with attending an old fashion rock concert. I have fond memories of younger days in Lewiston, Maine when Blue Oyster Cult would open for Boston, REO Speedwagon for Aerosmith, or Kansas opening for Queen. Even more notable was one of my first ever concerts in Portland. Can you imagine a little old Texas band named ZZ Top warming up the crowd for Uriah Heep? That they certainly did!

Yesterday brought an amazing display and rapid sell through of the Westend Avenue type coins. Premium quality was on full display along with fair prices. Few pieces remain on the price list this morning. Getting to the 100 piece level on the 30 Day Price List will be impossible if more Westend Avenue Collections are handled!

As mentioned to the Westend Avenue consignor yesterday afternoon, *you are the opening act for Friday's Blog edition*. He promptly went to the Blog to view the Washington State Collection gallery and replied with, *Wow! You weren't kidding.* Yes, I was not joking around and most serious. Let's end the preamble here and move to today's headline act; the first installment of the Washington State Collection's type coins.

The Amazing Washington State Type Collection - Part 1

Exceptional is the operative word to describe today's Washington State Collection offerings with little commentary being necessary. Just imagine those younger years when viewing magazines starting with "P". The pictures were way more important than stories or political commentary of the day!

The Washington State consignor has been working with GFRC since 2014. First was the attempt to sell foreign coins on consignment that did not go so well. Our relationship grew after hanging out at a Chicago ANA show. Our consignor is an eclectic individual with many numismatic passions. Unknown to me was his quiet type set building project. The smaller denomination outcome is on full display today. Every piece in today's offering is a gem or near-gem with huge eye appeal. Of course, asking prices will be consistent with the current market for CAC approved coins. Those that do not sell by next Wednesday will be on display and available at the NH Coin Expo starting September 30.

We open the gallery with an amazing 1837 B-2 Capped Bust quarter that is a frosty gem at grade. Beautifully toned proof strikes are present throughout the gallery. Circulation strikes are further represented by a monster 1916 MS67 Full Band Mercury and a cool 1887-S which just happens to be an early die state F-107 before the reverse badly cracked. I could not believe my attribution last evening, but it is true!

Rain is on the way for the next 48 hours which translate into two full days in the GFRC office. Get ready for the Washington State Collection type coins to be posted starting this afternoon and continuing through Saturday. Price inquiries are always welcomed to ensure a first shot.

The Amazing Washington State Type Collection - Part 1

Please Email for Price Quotes - Loading to Price List During Friday/Saturday

1837 B-2 PCGS MS64 CAC 25C

1869 PCGS PR66RB CAC 2C

1875 PCGS PR64CAM 20C

1865 PCGS PR65 CAC 25C **1888 PCGS MS67 CAC 25C**

1857 PCGS MS64RB CAC 1/2C **1865 PCGS PR65RB CAC 1C 3CS** **1865 PCGS PR65CAM CAC**

1860 PCGS PR65+CAM CAC 10C **1887-S F-107 EDS PCGS MS65 CAC 10C CAC 10C** **1901 PCGS PR65CAM**

1916 PCGS MS67FB CAC 10C **1869 PCGS PR64CAM CAC 25C**

Oregon Beaver's *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* - Bidding Starts Tomorrow 9:00 PM!

Anticipation is building for the first of two Oregon Beaver Seated half dollar auction sales. Part 1 auction bidding begins in roughly 36 hours and will close on October 2nd.

As mentioned previously, demand for quality Liberty Seated halves remains fierce. The Oregon Beaver sale is an opportunity to acquire top end duplicates that would nicely augment an advanced collection.

If not already done so, please visit the GFRC Online Auctions online catalog by clicking on the Oregon Beaver auction banner that follows. The visit will be well worth the time taken.

"Bertha's" Silver Washington Quarters

The roll-out of "Bertha's" 1950s circulation picks continues today. Bertha is Roger Theriault (one of Diane's old brothers) mother-in-law who passed away recently at 91 years of age. Instead of taking Bertha's cherished coins to a local coin shop, GFRC hopes to maintain these Whitman folder collections together by offering at spot silver pricing.

Today brings the Washington quarters from 1932 through 1959 with only the 1932-D and 1946-D (?) missing but the 1932-S is there. The Whitman folders are copyrighted 1945 with the last printed date being 1956. The folders are populated through 1959 with the latter yields being nice AUs. Fortunately, Bertha did not clean or enhance her coins. All are nice and original as removed from circulation. Asking price for the lot is $420 shipped via Medium size USPS Priority box. Clicking on the below image provides access to a 10Meg high resolution image for closer inspection.

Bertha's Washington Quarter Collection - 71 Pieces Priced at $420 Shipped

Buddy the Dog Gets an ACL Repair

This morning brings rescheduled surgery for Buddy the Dog. Buddy blew out a rear leg ACL several weeks ago and was schedule for repair surgery on October 11th. An appointment cancellation has move the time frame to this morning at 9:00 AM. Diane will be consumed with this task leaving yours truly to handle the morning shipping.

Let's hope that Buddy's surgery is a success and allows our little guy to return to a more normal life.

Global Financial News

U.S. equity markets rallied nicely on Thursday with the DJIA up 506 points to 34764 and the NASDAQ holding the 15,000 level. That was yesterday's news.

This morning brings a development in the Treasury bond market with yields rising from 1.33% to 1.42% in a single day. Is this increase earth shattering? Not from my perspective but it does give the financial media a strong headline for the next 48 hours. Market futures suggest a slight negative bias this morning.

In Asia, Japan +2.1%. Hong Kong -1.5%. China -0.80%. India +0.30%.

In Europe, at midday, London -0.16%. Paris -0.72%. Frankfurt -0.51%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow -0.11%. S&P -0.23%. NASDAQ -0.40%.

The important news of the day is WTI crude oil prices increasing to $73.53/bbl as global economies continue their post-pandemic recovery. That recovery would move along more quickly if more people took advantage of omnipresent employment opportunities.

The paper gold story line does not change. Gold continues to languish at $1756/oz while Bitcoin is holding at $44,493. The Beijing government continues its crackdown on Bitcoin trading and mining.

Wrapping Up The Blog

The Blog is being published early as I must handle shipping on a solo basis to start another day. Overnight orders were quiet which is a mixed blessing.

Once shipping is completed, the emphasis shifts to posting the Washington State type coins to the price list. This evening will be a basement sound room event as a break from the coin business.

Thanks for checking in at the Blog. Be well.

September 23, 2021

Welcoming Eclectic Offerings from the Westend Avenue Collection

Greetings again! Welcome to the morning numismatic continuum fondly known as the Daily Blog. Your visits are much appreciated.

Southern Maine weather continues to be quite unsettled with overcast and periods of light rain. According to Weather.com, this morning brings an absence of rain which will allow an opportunity to reinforce the pea stone pathway through the side lawn for dump truck traffic. Dave Wilkinson came by late Wednesday with a 6 yard load of new pea stone for that task. Once the pathway is more resilient to heavy traffic, Dave will be depositing another three loads of 1.5" stone and gravel. I've decided to start cleaning the northern trail and installing its walking path during the coming weekend. Though the southern trail has seen much progress, the incremental JD2025R transport time (for a single bucket load) is becoming excessive with limited trail lining progress for the time spent. Diane wishes to walk on an unencumbered trail free from protruding roots and muddy conditions. When Diane speaks, a good husband listens with a new emphasis on the northern trail.

Back in the GFRC office, much progress is being made with the Washington State and Westend Avenue Collection consignments. A ten piece new purchase deal arrived on Wednesday, was quoted and approved by end of day. Another new purchase lot (12 pieces) will also appear today. The incoming flow is steady and timely for rebuilding the 30 Day Price List. There is much ground to cover towards the 100 piece goal by end of the coming weekend.

Otherwise, it is business as usual here in Maine. Incremental consignments would be sincerely appreciated as the current incoming lots will not last long given today's strong market conditions. Those well familiar with the GFRC price lists will note the new product line expansion into proof coinage. Few dealers make a market in the proof realm which presents an opportunity for GFRC to grow its market share in that segment. That and handling beautiful proof coins is so much fun!

Welcoming Eclectic Offerings from the Westend Avenue Collection

A sincere welcome goes out to a new GFRC customer turned consignor on this Thursday morning. The Westend Avenue Collection is based in New York City with a flair for beautifully toned coins across all series and denominations. Acquiring the ability to perceive choice and gem original coins with natural toning is a skill that takes years to perfect. I could not be more pleased to have yet another numismatic connoisseur within the GFRC community adding selections to the supply chain.

Secondly, the following gallery presents my finest copper coin photography to date. Photographing copper is more difficult than silver and gold coinage. One must deal with uniformly dark coins and many with verdigris. Exactly matching the natural chocolate brown surfaces, without amplifying red tones, took multiple trial and error sessions until an optimum process flow was developed. Today's presentation reflects the end result from yet another operational progression and I could not be more pleased with the outcome.

I don't expect many of the Westend Avenue Collection offerings to last long on the price list. Already, there are five inquires for the gorgeous 1896 Morgan dollar, a real sweetheart! The 1909 VDB Lincoln also brings monster eye appeal at a reasonable price. The headline 1913 Proof Lincoln and 1884 Proof Seated quarter are worthy of careful inspection and consideration.

So please sit back and take the time to click on the below images towards enjoying the initial round of Westend Avenue offerings.

Eclectic Offerings from the Westend Avenue Collection

Please Email for Price Quotes - Loading to Price List on Thursday

1913 PCGS PR66BN 1C **1884 PCGS PF64 CAC 25C**

1834 B-4 NGC AU53 25C **1896 PCGS MS65 CAC $1**

1851 PCGS MS63BN CAC 1C **1906 NGC PF64RB 1C** **1909 VDB NGC MS65BN 1C**

1937 PCGS PR64RB 1C **1972 DDO PCGS MS66BN 1C** **1873 PCGS PR65 Rattler 3CN**

1893 PCGS PF66 CAC 5C **1945 PCGS MS64 Gold CAC Rattler 10C**

GFRC Wishes to be Your Full Service Coin Dealer

The numismatic marketplace is composed of countless coins dealers, small and large. Collectors Corner lists 115 dealers as an example. Some are generalist handling all series and denominations while others specialize in certain metals or series.

GFRC is presently known for its Liberty Seated expertise with a growing U.S. gold presence. Those who know me well understand the restlessness and unending appetite for continuous learning. To feed that beast, I am not bashful about expanding the business into new areas. Proof coinage is the latest endeavor. Paramount for all coins sold by GFRC is premium quality. Since operating with a small staff, why not focus on premium coins that are a joy to photograph and illustrate?

Complimenting the premium coin focus is an unrelenting effort to provide quick operational turnarounds and personalize service. Every collector has a different personality and associated collecting style. Why not work with an expert collector and dealer who can adapt his services to your specific needs? If needing to sell duplicates or raise cash on a near term basis, GFRC can provide solutions. If wishing to sell a major collection at auction, GFRC Online Auctions can provide that service.

On the selling side, who else offers Quick Ship transport for new purchases? This service is based on trust and established relationships. I am fully aware that collectors wish to see new purchases arriving as quickly as payments are issued. Our efforts are beginning to be noted and appreciated.

Finally, GFRC provides personalized consulting. Those clients with open minds and a desire to expand knowledge and horizons will find that working with GFRC is a learning opportunity. I've coached many collectors out of buying generic marketplace dregs while shifting their attention to premium coins. Once collectors accomplish that transition, they typically exit a host of former purchases towards rebuilding a collection with superior pieces.

For all that I do and provide, the GFRC commission rate is quite fair as are the prices paid when buying out lots. Selling coins to GFRC is straightforward. If I don't like or wish to buy offerings, there is a reasons for that respond with not hard feelings. At my age, I enjoy being surrounded by better than average coins, plain and simple.

If you've been on the fence about liquidating a numismatic position, please consider GFRC as an alternative. Few in the business provide the quality images and personalize marketing available from yours truly.

Global Financial News

Global equity markets have turned optimistic after the Evergrande "media event". Day traders and those guided by short term emotions took markets down for several days. Cooler heads are back with morning market futures suggesting a second upbeat trading day.

Evergrande made its bond coupon payment and is climbing in Hong Kong trading. The Bank of China has added more liquidity into the banking system for mainland companies.

Back in the U.S., the Federal Reserve is forecasting an end to bond buying during 2020 and elevated interest rates during 2023. This news is bullish as the Fed sees continued growth for the homeland economy.

In Asia, Japan Closed. Hong Kong +1.0%. China +0.38%. India +1.39%.

In Europe, at midday, London +0.52%. Paris +1.06%. Frankfurt +1.07%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow +0.71%. S&P +0.73%. NASDAQ +0.71%.

I'm closely monitoring crude oil prices as there is a belief that higher prices are forthcoming. This morning's WTI crude quote has increased to $72.30/bbl. Paper gold continues to languish at $1768/oz while a Bitcoin is selling for $43862.

The 10 Year U.S. Treasury yield is flat at 1.34%.

All is well in the financial sectors, therefore please purchase more coins!

Wrapping Up The Blog

I will be in the GFRC office for most of the day preparing an awesome Washington State Collection gallery for Friday's Blog.

A portion of the Westend Avenue Collection offerings are already on the price list with the balance to follow today.

Thanks again for visiting with me at the Blog. Be well!

September 22, 2021

Oregon Beaver's *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* - Bidding Starts Soon!

Washington State Collection - Superb CAC Approved U.S. Gold

and

New Price List Arrivals to Consider

Greetings on a dark and foggy southern Maine morning. Another Wednesday is upon us.

Yes, here I am sitting in the GFRC office at 6:00 AM looking into pitch black outside the office window. The official sunrise time is 6:29 but foggy conditions will delay the dawn and morning inspiration. We will do the best possible towards writing a reasonable Blog edition.

Tuesday brought a productive day in the office as the Washington State Collection was priced and submitted to the consignor for approval. This collection is downright awesome and should garner considerable attention. Four gold pieces are posted later in today's edition as a preview of what is to come.

Today's focus shifts to a newly consigned offering from the Westend Avenue Collection. Another GFRC customer has decided to move along duplicates or unwanted items via the consignment process. Some collectors hold on to coins for years while others will enjoy a coin for a year or two and decide to sell towards raising fresh numismatic capital. There are as many collecting styles as there are clients. On a personal note, my collecting style is probably the poster child for a humdrum collecting approach since holding on to Liberty Seated dime purchases for decades with maybe two or three

upgrades in a year's time. Conversely, this collecting style recognizes that patience is a virtue. Purchases are made on an opportunistic basis when the cream of the cream is released into the marketplace.

Speaking of my personal collection, I must find time to visit the bank box and retrieve the 1860-S PCGS MS63 Gold CAC dime and compare with the recently crossed and re-stickered 1860-S PCGS MS64 CAC piece. My thought is to present both dimes in the Blog and seek advice on which to keep in the collection. This would be a fun exercise for all. The PCGS MS64 CAC specimen is also the Kamal Ahwash plate coin which adds an important historical twist to the decision process.

I'm pleased to report that "Bertha's" Peace Dollar collection quickly sold on Tuesday morning and was promptly shipped to the new owner. There will be more Whitman folder based silver collections forthcoming during the next week as we work through her collection.

Oregon Beaver's *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* - Bidding Starts Soon!

In a bit over 72 hours, bidding for the first of two Oregon Beaver Seated half dollar auction sales will begin. Demand for quality Liberty Seated halves remains fierce as the regular price list shrinks on a daily basis. The Oregon Beaver sale is an opportunity to acquire top end duplicates that will hopefully release some fresh consignments back to GFRC.

Washington State Collection - Superb CAC Approved U.S. Gold

The Washington State Collection is an important offering event. Since terminating the First Right of Refusal process, I'm unable to list the contents of the entire collection as there will be those who will request first shots. Trust me, this collection is a top end premium event that will garner much attention as it is brought to the Daily Blog and price lists.

This collection is actually four collections in one and will be released in that manner. Following are those four lots:

- Proof early type which is fully CAC approved. Highlights are the 1875 PR64CAM double dime and 1865 PR64+ Seated dollar.

- A run of quality Liberty Seated quarters

- Select U.S. gold that is featured today

- A quality lot of early silver commemoratives

The consignor has promised to confirm my pricing recommendations today. Once we cross that milestone, I will be loading this lot to the price list asap. The goal is to have the entire collection in inventory for next week's Manchester NH coin show. Certainly, many will sell immediately from the price list as this is an opportunity for GFRC clients to insource some fantastic items that have been off the market for an extended period of time.

It is with pleasure that GFRC presents the U.S. gold portion of the Washington State Collection. Quality and eye appeal reigns across these four offerings. Each has their special characteristics. The 1889 $1 gold piece brings intense frosty luster that is typical for the issue. The 1862 $2.5 offering is one of the few "affordable" Civil War era quarter eagles. How I love the pristine surfaces and overall preservation. The 1856-S and 1868 $3 Princess gold pieces are as expected. Both bring deep orange-gold coloring and frosty luster. Mintages are 34,500 and 4,850 respectively. I don't expect these gold offerings to last long once published on the price list.

Washington State Collection - Superb CAC Approved U.S. Gold

Please Email for Price Quote - Posting to Price List on Wednesday

1889 NGC MS65+ CAC G$1

1862 PCGS AU58 CAC G$2.5

1856-S PCGS AU53 CAC G$3 **1868 PCGS AU58 CAC G$3**

New Price List Arrivals to Consider

The GFRC office is a busy place with coins coming and going. Sometimes, single pieces are shipped on consignment and will be kitted into a small lot for presentation. Following are three important offerings for your consideration. The 1861 dime is a fully struck Type 1 example which illustrates the fine details of this short lived Longacre-Paquet obverse design. The 1916-D Mercury dime is a classic offering with perfectly original surfaces along with residing in a PCGS old green holder. Finally, the 1820/19 O-102 Capped Bust half dollar presents old time originality.

New Price List Arrivals to Consider

Please Email for Price Quote - Posting to Price List on Wednesday

1861 Type 1 F-102 PCGS MS65 10C

1916-D PCGS VG08 OGH 10C **1820/19 O-102 NGC VF35 CAC 50C**

Global Financial News

Tuesday brought a classic example of where morning market futures failed to predict how markets would fair by day's end. The "buying the dip" crowd lacked conviction and was overwhelmed by selling during the afternoon hours. Today brings another Federal Reserve reporting session. The only thing for certain is the financial media working overtime on bond buying reductions and potential interest increase topics. How they love to raise anxieties with clickbait headlines.

For the record, it has been reported that China's Evergrande will make its bond coupon payment on schedule. The Monday market sell-off could be attributed to rumor amplification by the financial press.

Is it my imagination, or are the online and cable media a cesspool of lazy reporting that is dependent on Twitter or instagram headline? Frankly, I have become most cynical concerning anything posted online. Of course, the Daily Blog is excluded!

Following are morning market futures for their entertainment value. Let's see where the markets close at end of day with a 0.5% favorable bias at the 9:30 AM opening bell.

In Asia, Japan -0.67%. Hong Kong Closed. China +0.4%. India -0.13%.

In Europe, at midday, London +1.17%. Paris +1.10%. Frankfurt +0.58%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow +0.59%. S&P +0.55%. NASDAQ +0.34%.

WTI crude has recovered for a recent swoop and is approaching the $72/bbl level. Paper gold is trading at $1775/oz while Bitcoin has lost further ground at $42,103.

The 10 Year U.S. Treasury bond yield has inched up to 1.34%.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Dawn has arrived revealing overcast conditions with a light mist that is keeping the ground wet. The autumn color transition is quickly becoming apparent via the driveway maple tree.

Today brings another long day in the office working on the Westend Avenue Collection and loading price approved coins to the price list. For once, there is no morning shipping as an indication of the slowdown in order rates that is partially driven by an anemic 30 Day Price List.

That is all she wrote on a Wednesday. Thank-you for stopping by at the Blog. Be well.

September 21, 2021

1875-CC Below Wreath F-108a Plate Coin on Price List

and

Bertha's Peace Dollar Collection Offering

Greetings on a cool autumn southern Maine morning and welcome to the Daily Blog. Thanks for stopping by.

Another day in the GFRC office arrives with bright morning sunshine. The days are quickly growing shorter with long early morning shadows from a sun positioned much lower above the eastern horizon. In just two months, the Fortins will be migrating to Florida. I certainly wish to make the most from these final 60 days at the Maine homestead.

Today's Blog edition has little in terms of prior day preparations. I will give it my best to render your visit worthwhile.

The final shipment from the recent consignment wave will be delivered this afternoon. The GFRC office is chocked full with new offerings. Operations is now the bottleneck for bringing a host of new coins to the price list. Tuesday's focus will be 100% on operations; image processing, COIN database updates, and consignor pricing approvals.

If the recent consignment wave was not enough new inventory, two new purchase deals (totaling 20 or so pieces) are also intransit to the GFRC office. GFRC's buying rate continues to increase regardless of not attending coin shows.

For Blog readers who are observant, I've posted an updated GFRC Online Auctions advertisement that is soliciting consignments for the Winter of 2022. As mentioned in Monday's Blog, I would appreciate and enjoy the showcasing of a January 2022 auction lot at the Winter FUN show in Orlando, Florida. The FUN show is early during 2022, taking place on January 6 - 8.

1875-CC Below Wreath F-108a Plate Coin on Price List

Monday evening saw a few new additional to the price list including the 1875-CC Below Wreath F-108a web-book plate coin. Following is an extraction from the web-book to help illustrate this new offering. Most important is a long rim cud on the lower reverse which is not visible in the images due to the PCGS edge prong in that location. This is a choice original example of the more difficult Below Wreath mintmark placement.

1875-CC

CC Below Wreath - Variety 108a

Obverse 7: High Date, Slight Downward Slope

Reverse E.2: Rim Cud 5:30 - 7:00, Small CC, [mm Lt,L,TL2], Die Cracks In Wreath

Bertha's Peace Dollar Collection Offering

Again some background is necessary for this new Blog segment.

Today brings another installment from one of Diane's older brothers (Roger) mother-in-law's collection. "Bertha" passed at the wonderful old age of 91. Her collection was assembled from circulating coinage dating back to the 1940s and ongoing into the 1980s. There are a host of Whitman blue folders with everything from Lincolns to Peace dollars. Some of the Whitman folders have printed dates stopping at 1954 which indicates when a portion of this collection was assembled.

Today brings the sale of Bertha's Peace dollars in a single Whitman folder that has a 1941 copyright date. There are 27 pieces total with the 1921 Peace being a nice VF30. Yes, there are two 1921 Morgans to fill several holes. Below is an image of the dollars in their old folder. Clicking on the image brings access to a high resolution version for closer inspection. We are offering this lot at $865 shipped in a Medium sized USPS flat rate box for check or Paypal F&F payment.

Following are the dates in this folder: 1921 Peace, 1921 Morgan (2), 1922 (4), 1922-D, 1922-S (3), 1923 (2), 1923-D, 1923-S (2), 1924, 1924-S, 1925, 1925-S. 1926-S (3), 1928-S, 1934, 1935, 1935-S. All pieces appear to have been removed for circulation with many being nice original AUs. None have been cleaned which is consistent with how Bertha managed her coins. This lot bids out at $1000+ per the CDN guide.

"Bertha's" Partial Peace Dollar Set with 1921 Peace - $865 Shipped

Click on Image for High Resolution Image Access

Global Financial News

Monday's equity market losses were about 1.5-2.0% when the dust settled. Today's morning market futures are positive for a recovery of at least half or more of yesterday's losses. "Buying the Dip" has become all to familiar in the current market's ongoing run-up to new records. Seeking Alpha has published a second article on the Evergrande real estate situation in China that is intended to calm investor anxieties.

Following are bullish morning market futures courtesy of Seeking Alpha.

In Asia, Japan -2.2%. Hong Kong +0.55%. China +0.2%. India +0.45%.

In Europe, at midday, London +1.07%. Paris +1.40%. Frankfurt +1.44%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow +1.1%. S&P +1.1%. NASDAQ +0.98%.

WTI crude pricing has also recovered with a morning quote of $71.20/bbl. I'm reading articles that suggest more upside for crude and natural gas prices heading into the winter months.

Paper gold is stuck in a funk with morning quote at $1764/oz. Moving deeper in a funk is Bitcoin which has dropped to $43,334.

We find the 10 Year U.S. Treasury bond yield unchanged at 1.33%.

Following is the promised Seeking Alpha article on Evergrande.

The dip-buyers who stepped in during the last hour of Wall Street trading yesterday are back again today, pushing stocks higher around the world. S&P futures, NASDAQ 100 futures and Dow Jones futures are all up about 1%.

In Asia, Japan's NIKKEI is lower, catching up with trading after a holiday on Monday, but Hong Kong's Hang Seng is up more than half a percent. In Europe, the benchmark indexes in Frankfurt, London and Paris are more than 1% higher, with the broader STOXX 600 up 1%.

No Lehman moment: Jitters about the impact of China's Evergrande defaulting on interest payments have eased overnight. S&P Global Ratings says that a government bailout is unlikely unless there is systemic risk and "far-reaching" contagion from Evergrande. But the S&P analysts also say the property company "failing alone would unlikely result in such a scenario."

"The crisis at Evergrande and in the Chinese real estate sector was the catalyst (for a selloff) most people were talking about, but truth be told, the market rout we're seeing is reflecting a wider set of risks than just Chinese property, and comes after increasing questions have been asked about whether current valuations could still be justified, with talk of a potential correction picking up," Deutsche Bank strategist Jim Reid writes today. "Remember that 68% of respondents to my survey last week thought there would be at least a 5% correction in equity markets before year end. So this has been front and center of people's mind even if the catalyst hasn't been clear," he adds.

Time to buy?: Monday's tumble brought some bullish calls from Wall Street banks, where several strategists still see the path of the broader market moving up and to the right.

"The market sell-off that escalated overnight we believe is primarily driven by technical selling flows (CTAs and option hedgers) in an environment of poor liquidity, and overreaction of discretionary traders to perceived risks," Marko Kolanovic, chief global market strategist at JPMorgan, wrote in a note yesterday. "Our fundamental thesis remains unchanged, and we see the sell-off as an opportunity to buy the dip."

Wrapping Up The Blog

Another busy office day awaits me including morning shipping and a CAC submission.

There is a sense of urgency for rebuilding the 30 Day Price List during the balance of the week. The challenge falls on the operations side of the GFRC business therefore I will be wearing that hat over the next 72 hours.

Thanks again for being loyal Daily Blog readers.

September 20, 2021

Oregon Beaver Collection *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* - Part 1 Bidding on Saturday

Fantastic Consignment Offerings Arriving to Price List

and

GFRC Online Auction News

Greetings and welcome to the Blog on a Monday morning. I'm pleased that you could stop by.

Another fine weather day awaits those of us in northern New England. As a reminder that the autumn season has arrived, today's high will only reach 71F and drop to a cold 45F during the overnight hours. The seven day forecast looks miserable with rain forecasted for Wednesday through Saturday.

As you might expect, several Sunday afternoon hours were spent on further lining the southern walking trail with the last of the on-hand 1.5" gravel. While deep in the woods, there was Diane taking another perimeter walk for her daily exercise. This substantial project is coming together nicely!

Sunday also brought the photography of the entire Tennessee Seated Dollar collection. In the past, I've experiencing difficulties with imaging these large denomination pieces but not yesterday! The noon time overhead sun was at the perfect angle to properly capture colors without PCGS edge view holder lighting reflections.

There is little else to mention in today's opening commentary, so let's get on with GFRC updates.

Oregon Beaver Collection *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* - Part 1 Bidding on Saturday

After a long display period, bidding for the first session of the Oregon Beaver's *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* opens this coming Saturday. Access to the GFRC Online Auctions catalog can be obtained by clicking on the auction banner.

There are a host of excellent Liberty Seated halves to consider. Might I suggest that you find time during the coming week to carefully inspect the 26 lots being offered?

Following are my top favorite pieces in the Part 1 Sale as a reminder of a substantial quality that can be found during the forthcoming auction.

Gerry's Favorite Oregon Beaver Part 1 Sale Offerings

1840 WB-1, Reverse of 1839, PCGS MS65 CAC 50C

1839 Drapery WB-7 NGC MS63 CAC 50C **1845 WB-2 PCGS AU58 CAC 50C**

1846 Tall Date WB-13 PCGS MS63 50C **1849 WB-10 MS63 CAC 50C**

1859-O WB-10 PCGS AU55 CAC 50C **1863 PCGS AU58 CAC 50C**

1871-CC WB-6 NGC VF30 50C **1891 PCGS MS61 CAC 50C**

Fantastic Consignment Offerings Arriving to Price List

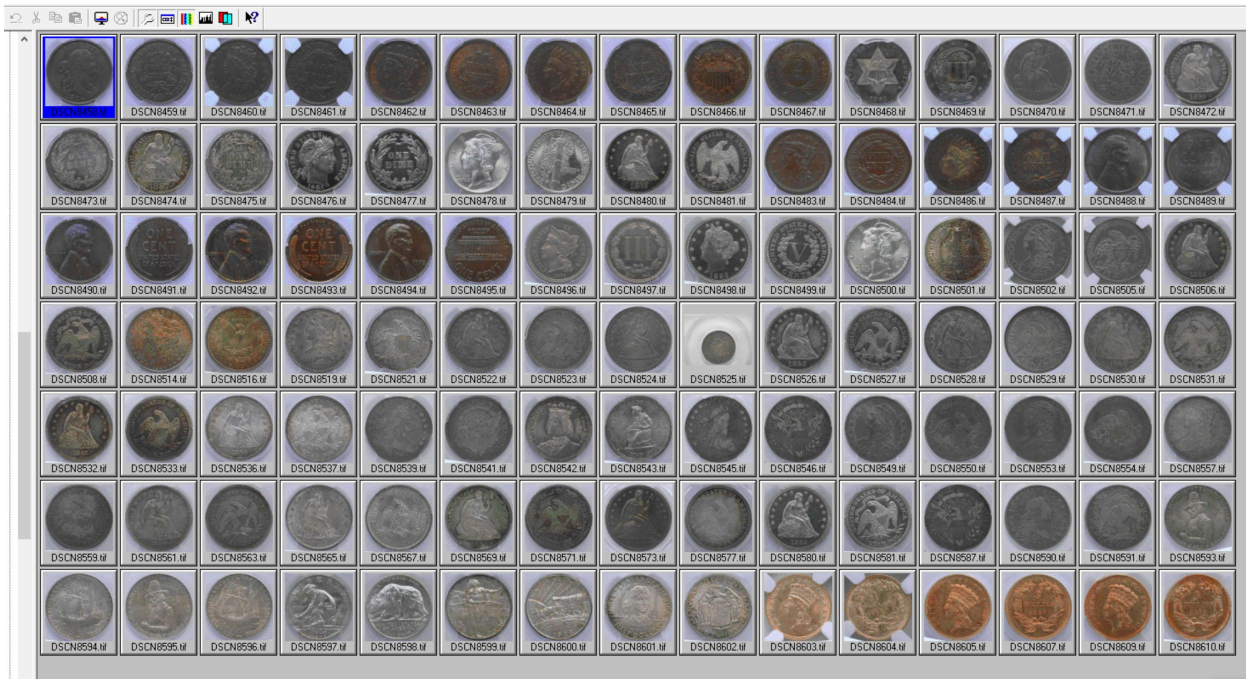
Get ready to be treated to some fantastic new price list offerings in the next few days!

Yes, I am well aware that the 30 Day Price List is struggling of late. It seems that most of what is posted sells immediately. There was a consignment gap about two weeks ago that translated into a slower posting rate along with my distraction with the Ledge Hill Trails project. Last week's consignment wave has changed that situation with the arrival of multiple consignments. This weekend also brought an email from the AuburnNY Accordian Collection consignor forecasting his forthcoming Liberty Seated Dime die varieties and $10 U.S. gold consignment. Within days, the 30 Day list will be populated with a host of new coins, some being important pieces including 1875 20c and 1865 $1 proofs.

To substantiate my claim, following is the image processing status of the Washington State Collection and a consignment from an unnamed consignor that is making his first GFRC appearance. These images have received their color balancing mask and will see continued processing today. For those who are curious, clicking on the below image brings access to a high resolution version.

Washington State and To Be Named Consignments Preview

Click on Image for High Resolution Access



GFRC Online Auction News

Here comes important news from the GFRC Online Auctions sub-division of the GFRC business!

- The Oregon Beaver Collection's Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Part 2 Sale lots and the Tennessee Dollars Collection will be on display at the NH Coin Expo (Manchester NH) from September 30 thru October 2.

- The GFRC Online Auctions platform is open for Winter 2022 consignments with the first auction planned for display at Winter FUN followed by bidding opening during mid-January 2022. Now is the opportunity to commit your collection and take the lead role for kicking off the 2022 GFRC Online Auctions calendar. Please call or email me to discuss a potential collection sale for headline exposure at the Winter FUN show.

Global Financial News

UGLY is the operative word to describe how U.S. equity markets will open in a few hours. Morning market futures are pointing to distressed markets throughout the globe. Hopefully, cooler heads will prevail today and limit losses to several percentage points. One of the driving issues is the Beijing government finally cracking down on indebted firms in the mainland China and Hong Kong property markets. More on this topic shortly.

In Asia, Japan Closed. Hong Kong -3.4%. China Closed. India -0.4%.

In Europe, at midday, London -1.4%. Paris -2.1%. Frankfurt -2.1%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow -1.4%. S&P -1.2%. NASDAQ -1.4%.

Paper gold prices are holding steady at $1760/oz in the face of equity market turbulence. WTI crude is down to $70.55/bbl along with Bitcoin retreating to $45,077.

The 10 Year U.S. Treasury bond yield stands at 1.33%.

Following is an important Seeking Alpha article that brings light to the basis for this morning's full point plus negative futures.

China Property Crisis

The possibility of China property company Evergrande collapsing and overall worries about China's crackdown on indebted firms is taking its toll on Hong Kong shares. The Hang Seng Index is down more than 3% with China and Japan closed for a holiday. The benchmark index hit an 11-month low earlier, with the index tracking construction and property off more than 6%. Evergrande is down more than 11% today and has fallen more than 80% this year as it struggles to meet debt payments. The company has more than $300M in debt and has warned about default. It has an $83.5M interest payment due on Thursday for a March 2022 bond, according to Reuters.

Domino effect: A collapse of Evergrande would have a domino effect on other China and Hong Kong property developers and a systemic effect on the rest of the economy, according to Jenny Zeng, co-head of Asia fixed income at AllianceBernstein.

"In the offshore dollar market, there is a considerable large portion of developers (who) are implied to be highly distressed," Zeng said on CNBC. Developers "can't survive much longer" if the refinancing channel continues to be shut. But she played down the possibility of Evergrande being akin to the collapse of Lehman Bros., noting the fragmentation of the China property market.

"Despite Evergrande's size, we all know it is the largest developer in China, probably the largest in the world, (the company) still accounts for only 4% and now it's even less of the total annual sales market," Zeng says. "The debt, particularly the onshore debt, is well collateralized."

Regulatory crackdown: Along with Evergrande, pressure is on the Hong Kong market as China's leaders look to rein in what it calls monopoly behavior, much like it has taken aim at the tech sector. But also like the moves against big tech companies, the exact actions the government will take are unclear. It is part of President Xi Jinping's "common prosperity" plan to address inequality.

"People may be worried about whether they have to take up extra responsibility to build more subsidized housing," Philip Tse, head of Hong Kong and China property research at BOCOM International, says, according to Bloomberg. "Foreign investors will be concerned if administrative matters in China will lead to a price cap, more stringent purchasing limits, or some tax-payment proof is required in order to pay for buying a flat."

Wrapping Up The Blog

I hope that you've enjoyed today's Daily Blog edition.

I'm heading to the shower followed by the usual morning shipping duties. Afterwards, the central focus is image processing and bringing a host of new consigned pieces to the price list. The neglected 30 Day Price List certainly needs some TLC.

Be well!

September 19, 2021

Jim Laughlin Questions Timing of 1870 and 1871 Seated Dime Proof Strikes

Autumn 2021 - Initial Coastal Horizon Foliage Report

and

Dark Thunderstorm Clouds From the Northwest!

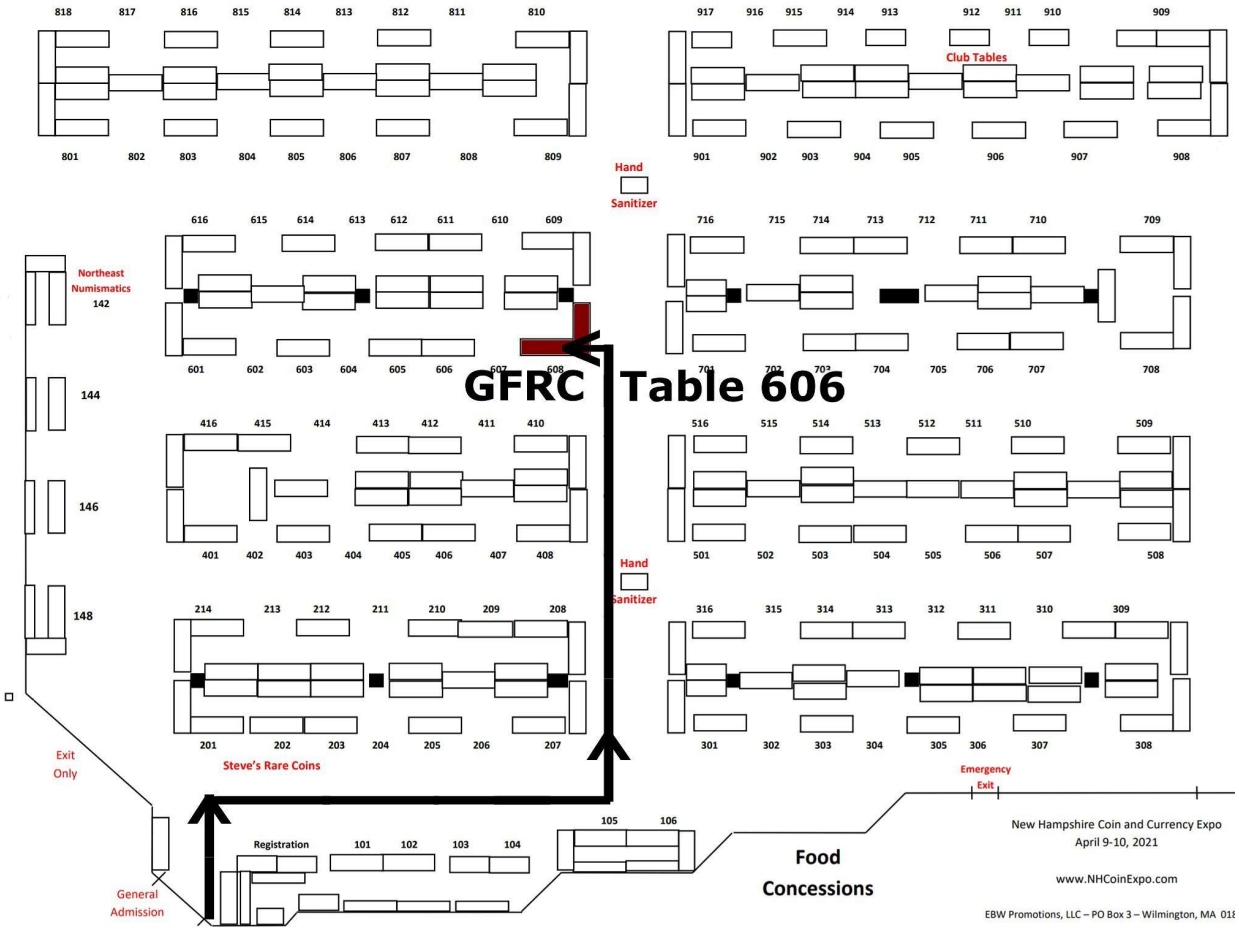
Greetings on a peaceful Sunday morning and welcome to another Daily Blog edition. I hope that today's visit will be worthwhile.

Yesterday's offering of the 53 piece Walking Liberty half dollar collection for $600 shipped brought five requests. Roger Theriault, Diane's older brother, is most pleased with the sale and looks forward to GFRC presenting more of Bertha's Whitman folder silver coinage collections. He reports finding yet another box of coins and will be dropping those off during the coming week for our evaluation.

Saturday brought a bright sunny day which means coin photography! The entire Washington State Collection consignment was photographed along with another twelve piece consignment from a new client. Image processing is underway today as I wish to have all these pieces posted and available for the upcoming NH Coin Expo that starts on September 30. As a quick reminder, GFRC will be located at Table 606. Here is the NH Coin Expo bourse floor layout and GFRC's corner table location.

GFRC Table 606 at Fall New Hampshire Coin Expo

September 30 - October 2, 2021



Jim Laughlin Questions Timing of 1870 and 1871 Seated Dime Proof Strikes

Jim Laughlin, a well known LSCC member and West Coast numismatic newspaper researcher, sent along an email concerning the reuse of an easily identified Liberty Seated dime 1870 and 1871 proof reverse die that was also employed for 1870 dated circulation strikes. The entire affair begs questioning as no plausible explanation has been offered to date. Here is Jim's opening thesis.

Been thinking that a question could be raised as to whether the 1870 and 1871 proof dimes were struck in a similar time frame considering the reuse of the same reverse die; comment from your web book page for the 1871 F-101. My question is ...**Do you think the circulation strike 1870 F-101a coins were struck prior to, or about the same time, or after the Proof 1871 F-101 and F-102 pieces?**.....guess asking a real hens teeth question, but kind of curious as had never heard of a proof die (albeit just the reverse die) being placed in service to strike circulation pieces, and then is resurrected to strike Proof coins once again in 1871.

For Blog readers who are not intimidatingly involved with Liberty Seated dimes, following is a pictorial sequence for all known die pairings with 1870 Proof Reverse A with continued usage for 1871 dated proof and circulation strikes. A single reverse die has been found for multi-year proof and circulation strikes. How can this be?

1870 F-101 Proof Strike

Obverse 1: High Date, Slight Downward Slope

Reverse A: Die Crack Through Ribbon Ends

1870 F-101a Circulation Strike

Obverse 1.2: High Date, Slight Downward Slope

Reverse A.2 : Die Crack Through Ribbon Ends

1870 F-103 Proof Strike

Obverse 3: High Date, Slight Downward Slope

Reverse A.2: Die Crack Through Ribbon Ends

1871 F-101 Proof Strike

Rarity: R5

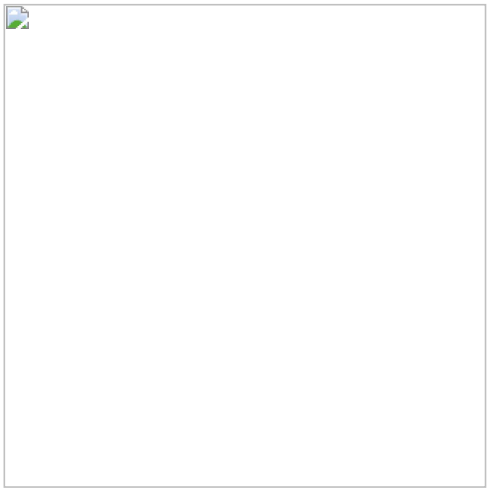
Obverse 1: Repunched 18

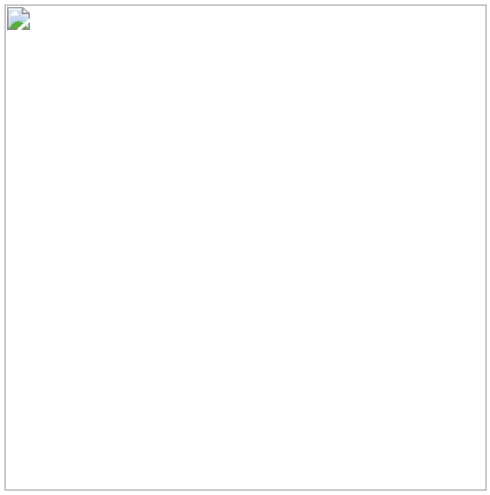
Reverse A.2: Die Crack Through Ribbon Ends, Reverse of 1870 (A)

1871 F-102 Proof Strike

Obverse 2: Medium Level Date

Reverse A.2: Die Crack Through Ribbon Ends, Reverse of 1870 (A)

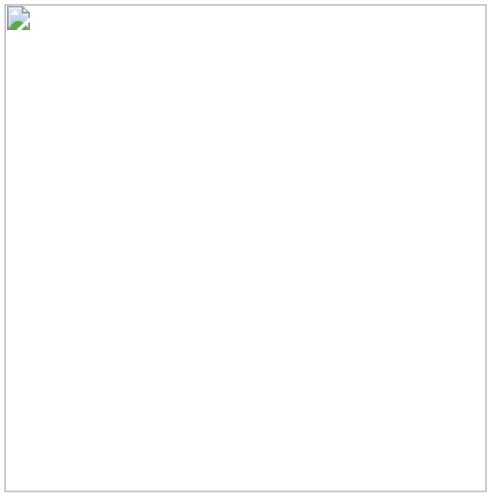




1871 F-102a Circulation Strike

Obverse 2.2: Medium Level Date

Reverse A: Die Crack Through Ribbon Ends, Reverse of 1870 (A)



Jim shares his newspaper research though insufficient to provide a definitive explanation:

Checking my fiscal year reports and newspaper published mintage figures (which I have real trouble finding more than half of), it appears that the total mintage of dimes in the July 1870 to December 1870 period was only between 250 and 525 total pieces. I suspect the 250 are proofs, as these match the corresponding figures minted for some of the other denominations the same month, the remaining 275 which is the number of unaccounted dimes I came up with, checking the fiscal year mintage July 1870 thru June 1871 of 10,675 dimes, against my tally of newspaper reported monthly mintage for the same period of 10,400.,,,so the unaccounted 275 coins could be from 1870 or 1871.

Guess the short of it. I was hoping to find in late 1870 a few thousand dimes or so that would represent the F101a 1870 circulation strike dimes, thinking that once the Mint employees realized they were through with Proof dime striking for the calendar year 1870, that they may have decided to use the ex-Proof 1870 dies to strike circulation examples. If that is true, the mintage must be incredibly small like 275 pieces at most, or they weren't recorded at all. Otherwise if the 1870 dated Proof dies were used during the calendar year 1870 to strike circulation strikes, it had to have been in the first half of the year, not the second.

Also, as I don't have any mintage records for December 1870, it is seemingly possible that the Mint had on hand both 1870 and 1871 Proof dies...and its possible both Proof dates of 1870 and 1871 were struck at or about the same time during December 1870 (maybe to the maximum extent of 275 pieces). .But this did not occur in January 1871, as the newspaper report no dimes were struck at all that month. It is possible also that 275 Proof dimes were struck in February 1871 as I have no newspaper records for that month either, and maybe both 1870 and 1871 Proof dies would still be both on hand. Only in March 1871 were 10,150 dimes struck (I suspect 400 of these were Proofs as that matches the corresponding mintages for some of the other silver denominations struck that month, that would leave 9750 circulation strike for the month). Again it is possible that 1870 dies had been held till March 1871 and were used alongside the 1871 Proof dies, but it seems an awful long delay.

Still looking for something regarding when the 1870 F101a circulation strikes were made, but theres no smoking gun at the end of the year 1870 that I expected to find.

Oh well, have to keep looking for those other monthly coinage reports.

All the best, Jim

Jim's email and research brings attention to one of the great unsolved mysteries for the Liberty Seated dime series.

Autumn 2021 - Initial Coastal Horizon Foliage Report

During Autumn 2020, I published weekly images of the coastal view from the back deck to illustrate the foliage color transition. This Daily Blog segment was very popular with much positive feedback. Why not do the same for 2021 given a much better Samsung Galaxy S21 camera and substantial progress with the Ledge Hill Trails development effort?

Today brings a baseline back acreage image to kick-off the Autumn 2021 color transition showcasing. The picture was taken slightly after noon time without shadows. Already, some crimson and yellow shades can be detected. Dave Wilkinson's excavator can be seen parked along side the main pathway.

All images will be presented in 4Meg high resolution. Simply click on the Blog sized image to access the high resolution version.

Autumn 2021 - Initial Coastal Horizon Foliage Report

Click on Image for High Resolution Enjoyment!

Dark Thunderstorm Clouds From the Northwest!

At 1:30 PM, the GFRC office was placed on hold to allow time to continued layering of the southern walking trail with 1.5" gravel. Down I went into the back acreage on the JD2025R to find Dave driving his excavator outward for loading on a transport trailer. Early next week brings another job on Great Diamond Island so best to remove the excavator on Saturday was shared by Dave.

I worked for about three hours lining the southern trail and making decent progress. Diane came down for a visit and walked the entire perimeter loop for the first time. She is very pleased with the progress and hopes that the rough northern trail can be quickly converted into a level walking path to enable walking the perimeter trail on a daily basis. How I enjoy that type of encouragement that translates into many more hours on the JD2025R!

Given Diane's wish, I contacted Dave for another 6 yard load of pea stone to further build up the lawn's lined path (originally installed for the JD2025R) to better accommodate his dump truck traffic. We are looking at 20 or more loads of 1.5" stone and 1.5" gravel to completely convert the cut trails into smooth walking paths. Once again, building infrastructure ahead of planned usage is a necessary step.

By 4:30 PM, I called it a day and relaxed on the new back deck with an adult beverage. The view was compelling as a coastal fog bank could be seen in the distance moving on shore. More importantly, dark thunderstorm clouds were approaching from the northwest towards the coastline. The below image captures the event. When living on top of a 950'

hill, the approaching clouds appear to be moving direct on top of the homestead. Note the darkness of the below image from the arriving cloud cover.

Dark Thunderstorm Clouds From the Northwest!

Wrapping Up The Blog

Thanks for checking in a the Blog. I hope that you have enjoyed this edition.

I will be in and out of the office today as the weather is conducive for incremental lining of the southern trail with 1.5" gravel. I still have another 6 yards available and hope to consume that material today.

Be well!

September 18, 2021

CAC Approved Better Date Morgan Dollars on Price List

Selling Partial Walking Liberty Half Dollar Set

and

Presenting the Expanded First Natural Spring

Greetings and welcome to the Daily Blog on a Saturday morning. Another autumn weekend is upon us.

The front yard landscaping is beginning to exhibit the early stages of the seasonal autumn foliage transition. Crimson coloring is now apparent across the driveway maple since being the first tree to move through its annual color change and early loss of leaves. The burning bushes are already at 50% down the path of their bright crimson transition.

Thick fog encases the homestead and back acreage as the Blog is composed. Cloudy conditions will be the rule for the day. During the afternoon hours, I am planning time on the JD2025R towards adding more "icing on the cake" for the southern trail. I would love to have that trail fully graveled and converted to an effortless walking path before heading to Florida. Though possible, the current GFRC consignment backlog and sales rates might delay this milestone until next spring.

Friday brought another twelve piece consignment that wraps up a substantial consignment week. This final consignment, from a new client, is mostly 20th century proof coinage and will be showcased in tomorrow's Blog.

CAC Approved Better Date Morgan Dollars on Price List

Reloading the 30 Day Price List is proving to be a daunting task as new offerings are selling as quickly as posted. Of course, this is excellent news for a coin dealer. Last evening and Saturday early morning brought new offerings with three pieces selling immediately. I make a point of pricing quality coins fairly which is apparent with current sale levels.

Here are three lovely CAC approved Morgan dollars for consideration. The 1879-CC dollar brings classic natural gray eye appeal and has already sold. Once thought to be a great rarity, the release of bags during the 1950s has made the 1885-CC date available in Mint State. Few 1885-CC dollars were released into circulation when minted. This new offering is quite sweet at the certified grade. Finally, I've gone with a JUST BUY IT NOW for the 1891-S Morgan as this one is quite impressive with brilliant luster and dancing cartwheels for an MS63. CAC approval is certainly accurate for these three offerings as all are premium examples.

CAC Approved Better Date Morgan Dollars on Price List

1885-CC PCGS MS63 CAC $1

1879-CC PCGS VF30 CAC $1

1891-S PCGS MS63 CAC $1

Selling Partial Walking Liberty Half Dollar Set

Some background is necessary for this new Blog segment.

One of Diane's older brothers (Roger) asked us to review a substantial coin collecting that was left behind after his 91 year old mother-in-law recently passed. As expected, the collection was amassed from circulating coinage dating back to the 1950s and ongoing into the 1980s. There are a host of Whitman blue folders with everything from Lincolns to Peace dollars. Some of the Whitman folders have printed dates stopping at 1954 which indicates when a portion of this collection was assembled. With my guidance, Diane has been sorting through half dollar rolls of Kennedy halves to remove the silver bullion pieces. There are the usual proof and mint sets too, but only for copper-clad coinage.

Rather than bring all the silver pieces to a local coin shop as 90% junk silver, let's try something new in the Blog. I'm sure that someone will be interested in the silver coinage sets in Whitman folders if priced at silver spot along with better dates priced well back of retail. There was much effort placed into building these sets and we wish to see these go to a collector at a fair price for all involved.

Today brings the Walking Liberty halves in two Whitman folders. There are 53 pieces total with the 1921-S being a reasonable VG. Below is an image of the halves in their old folders. Clicking on the image brings access to a high resolution version for close inspection. We are offering this lot at $600 shipped in a Medium sized USPS flat rate box for check payment.

Partial Walking Liberty Half Dollar Set

Presenting the Expanded First Natural Spring

After publishing the Blog on Friday, I took a stroll down the southern walking trail to check on the status of the first spring after being expanded and dug deeper on Wednesday. Here is a status image taken with the new Samsung Galaxy S21 5G+ phone. Please feel free to click on the image for accessing the high resolution version.

We've completed expanding the right side of the spring (southern side) and installed a fairly substantial rock retaining wall to protect the pool for ground erosion. Come 2022, Dave Wilkinson will be back for two days to cut out the back left side with two trees and stumps to be removed to further expand the pool area and constructing a dam further down the outlet. The goal is to raise the water level by another 1.5' - 2' and add goldfish to the "pond" as a test for survivability in the forest. Forthcoming will be several benches and a tenting platform that have been promised to Matt and Natsumi for their summer 2022 homestead visit.

Today's image is quite beautiful as the green forest shades are nicely reflected by the pool's surface. The lifer patches are sunlight peeking through the overhead canopy.

Presenting the Expanded First Natural Spring

Click on Image for High Resolution Enjoyment!

Wrapping Up The Blog

I hope that you've enjoyed today's visit. Each day and edition beings a new chapter in a life.

I will be in the GFRC office for most of the day with a 2 hours graveling session on the back southern trail. There have been requests for a walking video tour of the southern trail. Once more progress is made, an attempt will be made to capture this walking path via video presentation.

Today's office session will focus on loading the many new consignments into the COIN system. This is one of those necessary tasks to ensure that all consigned coins are properly captured for business insurance coverage.

Thanks again for being loyal Daily Blog readers. Be well!

September 17, 2021

Part 2 of the Consignment Wave Arrives - Tennessee Seated Dollar Collection

and

An Exciting Late GFRC September

Greetings on a Friday morning and welcome back to the Blog. My sincere thanks go out to those who frequent these ramblings.

Every day brings goals and surprises. I had planned to have a new purchases gallery ready for today's edition. However, other needs appeared that required attention. Purchasing a replacement cellphone was a top priority to ensure business accessibility. A quick trip to a Windham AT&T store resulted in a fantastic Samsung Galaxy S21 5G+ phone being configured and returning to the Raymond office. Since not upgrading cellphone for four years, the technology and application leap was a joy. The immediate challenge is becoming familiar with the Samsung ring tone as compared to Huawei. Sorry, I've been an Android fan since day one and have no desire to entertain an iPhone.

Thursday morning also brought a long phone chat with another dealer offering a wholesale deal. When the conversation ended, twelve coins were purchased based on trust with the other dealer's eyes and transparency. We shared the same understanding of surfaces and originality which made the deal possible. The afternoon hours brought a long phone call with Brenda Wyen from Coin World. Yes, Brenda does read the Blog too. We discussed a new GFRC Online Auctions marketing strategy for the upcoming end of year dealer directory.

In between these activities, more new purchases and a fresh Sooner Collection consignment were photographed and partially processed. Dinner time saw yet another important discussion with Diane concerning the upcoming Whitman Baltimore show. I've not made mention in the Blog, but Buddy the Dog as blown out an ACL on a rear leg. I can empathize since severing an ACL back in 1986 during beach volleyball. Buddy is scheduled for reconstruction operation during mid-October and cannot jump for eight weeks afterwards. We agreed that Diane must stay behind to nurse Buddy while I attend the Baltimore show. I've already reached out to a trusted friend for table assistant duties along with Dan and Rose Marie.

Part 2 of the Consignment Wave Arrives - Tennessee Seated Dollar Collection

Thursday also brought a personal visit from Linda, our Raymond Postmaster, with the delivery of the Tennessee Seated Dollar Collection along with a registered package with a wonderful Morgan dollar consignment from yet another GFRC consignor. I took these Morgans on due to the toning and old holders that will certainly garner attention. These are far from your average "product" that one sees in many dealer cases.

As is tradition, following in an image of the Tennessee Seated Dollar Collection on my world map desk. The superior Samsung S21 cellphone camera has already proven itself when capturing the below image. Color matching and fine resolution are most accurate. Already, several individuals have registered via email to bid at the forthcoming GFRC Online Auction that takes place during November. This Seated dollar collection auction will certainly garner substantial interest.

GFRC Online Auctions - Tennessee Seated Dollar Collection - Coming November 2021

Click on Image for Accessing High Resolution Version

The Samsung S21 has proven to be most effective with image capturing, therefore following is a snapshot of the fresh Morgan dollar consignment. Sorry, I will not be accepting First Rights of Refusal. Everyone should understand this point by now.

Arriving to the GFRC Price List Shortly

An Exciting Late GFRC September

Hold on to your numismatic hats as the coming two weeks will be quite exciting for GFRC clients. With the Ledge Hill Trails project seeing substantial progress for 2021, attention returns to the GFRC business. Here are forthcoming happenings to consider.

- GFRC Online Auctions - Oregon Beaver's Part 1 Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale bidding starts on September 25

- NH Coin Expo September 30 thru October 2 - Please make a point of visiting with Gerry and Dan at Table 606 to view the best and widest ranging inventory on the bourse floor.

- Rebuilding the GFRC 30 day price list back to the 100 coin threshold. This effort starts today and will continue through end of the month.

Global Financial News

The big new of the financial day is paper gold dropping to as low as $1754 during Thursday's trading. U.S. retail sales are trending above expectations which might incentivize the Federal Reserve to act sooner than later on an interest rate increase. Higher interest rates are not supportive for gold prices.

On the other hand, inflation is not transitory as is being lauded by the Federal Reserve and politicians. Overseas supply chain issues and U.S. port workforce shortages (unloading container ships) are limiting the delivery of merchandise for the upcoming holiday season. As consumer demand returns, component and product shortages will limit suppliers allowing retailers to charge more for their limited inventories. This is no different that what we are seeing in the numismatic market with demand for CAC approved early type and U.S. gold.

Morning market futures are forecasting a slight negative bias for Friday's opening 9:30 AM trading.

In Asia, Japan +0.6%. Hong Kong +1%. China +0.2%. India -0.2%.

In Europe, at midday, London -0.2%. Paris -0.2%. Frankfurt -0.2%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow -0.2%. S&P -0.3%. NASDAQ -0.3%.

WTI crude is holding on to recent gains at $72/bbl. Paper gold has recovered slightly to $1764/oz but the technical trend looks awful. More on this topic in a forthcoming Blog edition. Bitcoin is flat at $47485. The 10 Year U.S. Treasury bond yield has ticked up slightly to 1.34%.

This brief Seeking Alpha article captures one aspect of Covid's impact on overseas supply chains.

Supply chain issues have been roiling the globe since the coronavirus pandemic began last year and retailers are still facing challenges with volatile production, COVID business restrictions and shortages of numerous goods. A great example of this can be seen in Vietnam, where many manufacturers had moved production during the trade war years of the Trump era to diversify and avoid tariffs. However, Vietnamese authorities this week announced an extension of restrictions in Ho Chi Minh City, the country's business hub and COVID outbreak epicenter, sending shockwaves down the supply chain.

Snapshot: Factory shutdowns in Vietnam led Wall Street research firm BTIG to downgrade Nike shares last week, while high-end furniture chain RH had to delay the launch of its contemporary furniture collection until next spring. Some companies have even gone as far as to announce they are bringing production back to China, like footwear producer Designer Brands, which said six years of supply chain work was undone in six days. "When you think about the amount of effort everyone was putting into getting out of China, and now one of the only places where you can get the goods is China," CEO Roger Rawlins declared. "It really is crazy, the roller coaster everyone has been on here."

Commodity prices and trading have also been a hot topic given the constraints seen in Vietnam. The nation is the No.2 coffee producer in the world, but is battling its worst COVID outbreak since the start of the pandemic. In August, Vietnamese coffee exports fell 8.7% from July to 111,697 tons, continuing a downward trend seen since January. As a result, benchmark arabica coffee futures have jumped by nearly 47% this year, a price that has also been affected by waves of frost and drought in No.1 producer Brazil. Coffee prices could stay "relatively high" through 2022 due to the constrained supply, according to Fitch Solutions.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Other than a stroll down to the first natural spring, my plan is to be in the GFRC office the entire day loading new consignments into the COIN database along with image processing and adding offerings to the price list.

There will be no outgoing shipments today, instead we will ship accumulated orders on Saturday.

Purchase order emails and phone calls are most welcomed.

Again thank-you for making the Daily Blog a regular part of a day's online reading. Be well!

September 16, 2021

Part 1 of the Consignment Wave Arrives

and

Mission Accomplished - Ledge Hill Trails Walking Path

Greetings and welcome to a much slower pace edition of the Daily Blog on a Thursday morning. Thank-you for checking in.

Before I start rambling, a courtesy notice is important. My old Huawei cellphone will no longer charge due to a worn out connector issue. I've powered down the phone to save on battery life to enable the purchase of a new Samsung Galaxy S21 later today. With a worn out connector, the probability of moving the address book and saved images to the new phone is unlikely but will try. If attempting to call GFRC this morning, the call will go to voice mail and will be responded to once the new cellphone is online.

Now back to our regular Blog edition as no preamble is necessary given much content to share.

Part 1 of the Consignment Wave Arrives

I was very serious about the consignment wave that is arriving this week. Wednesday brought the arrival of two shipments as presented in the below photograph. The consignments are from the Washington State and Sooner Collections with the Washington offerings being the much larger of the two.

Once returning back from the back acreage project (more on that topic later), I took a shower and immediately went through the Washington State pieces. Wow, wow, and more wows could be heard coming from the sunroof as this consignment was inspected. Following are a few Washington State Collection highlights to whet your appetite. This consignment is a fantastic type set with expansion of some series including Seated quarters and early silver commemoratives. Sorry, but I am firm that no First Rights of Refusal will be entertained by those who still attempt to go out of bounds for securing first shot. A decision to market and sell the Washington State Collection via the regular consignment route or a GFRC Online auction must be thought through.

Copper 1/2c - 1857 PCGS MS64RB CAC

Indian 1c - 1865 PR65RB CAC

3 Cent Silver - 1865 PCGS PR65CAM CAC

Seated 20c - 1875 PCGS PR64CAM CAC

Draped Bust 25c - 1806/5 PCGS VF35 crusty original

Seated 25c - 1869 PR64CAM CAC, 1888 PCGS MS67 CAC

Flowing Hair 50c - 1795 PCGS VF25 crusty original

Draped Bust 50c - 1806/5 PCGS VF25 CAC crusty original

Seated $1 - 1865 PCGS PR64+ CAC with monster colors

Gold $3 - 1856-S PCGS AU53 CAC, 1868 PCGS AU58 CAC

Washington State and Sooner Collection Consignments

Today brings the arrival of a nearly complete Liberty Seated Dollar collection with all pieces, except the 1870-CC, being graded PCGS AU53 through AU58. This set has been published on the PCGS Set Registry with TruView images. GFRC Online Auctions will be offering this impressive opportunity as the Tennessee Dollars Collection.

Friday brings the arrival of an eclectic offering of smaller denomination coinage with most being CAC approved. This has been quite the week for fresh inventory!

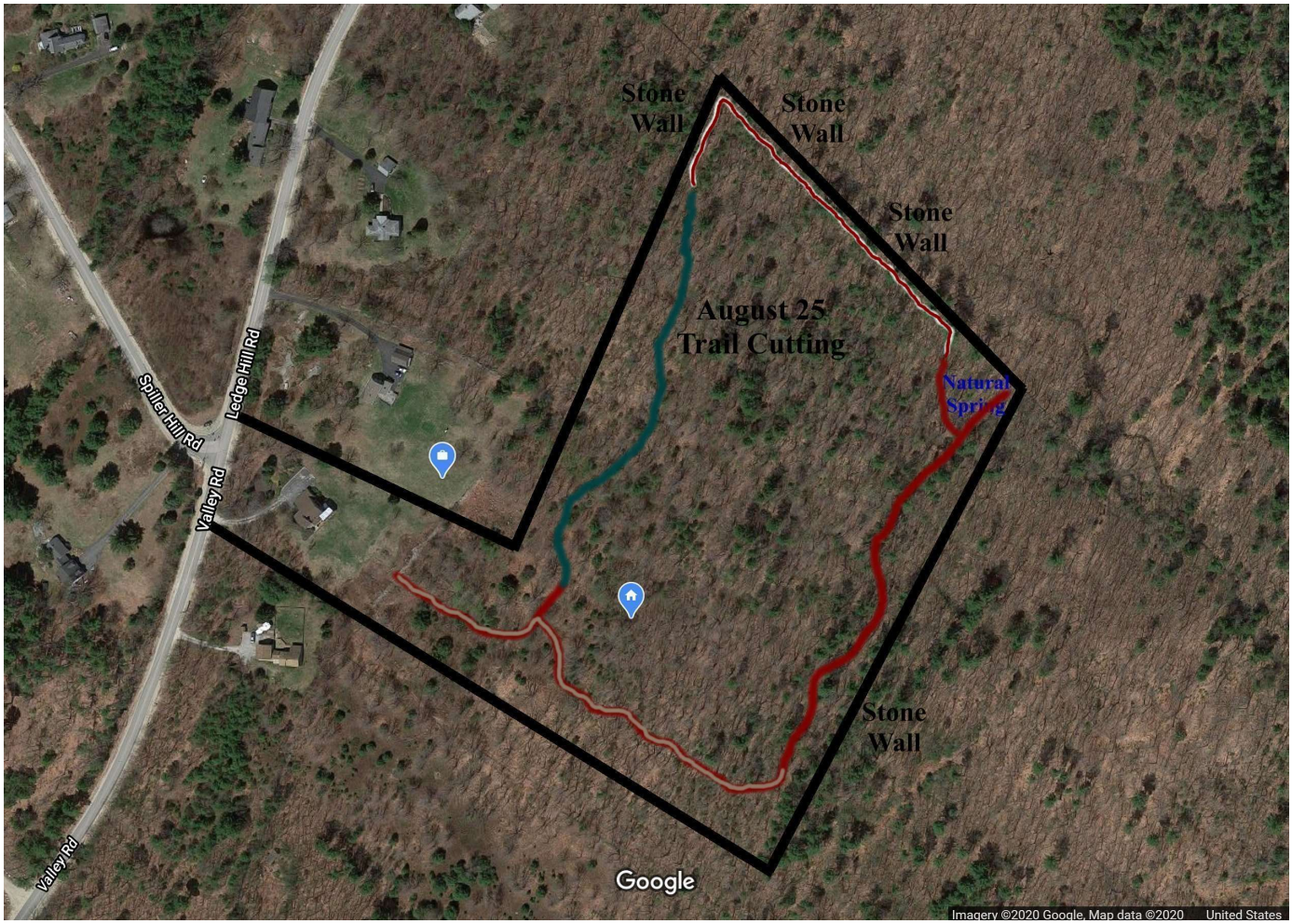
Mission Accomplished - Ledge Hill Trails Walking Path

I am so pleased to report that the Ledge Hill Trails project has achieved a notable milestone effective Wednesday noon time. After over a year of effort with outstanding support from Dave Wilkinson (Wilkinson's Seasonal Services), the entire back acreage perimeter path has been linked into a continuous loop.

It was fitting that the last 50 feet of trail cutting was the worst of 2021. We hit a dense rock field that took an extended period to traverse and clear out. A huge birch tree stood in the way and was dropped and partitioned with my trusty Husqvarna chain saw.

Below is the final presentation of the Ledge Hill Trails project map for this year. As Dave so well said as we wrapped up the day, "we've baked an impressive cake, now it is your turn to add the icing on the cake with the JD2025R". I questioned Dave on where this project stood in terms of size and challenge for his smaller excavator. Unquestionably, this was the largest project that Dave has taken on in his career. What a great guy he is! The story does not end here as Dave will be transporting countless loads of 1.5" stone and 1.5" gravel as I apply the "icing" on the trails during the remaining 2021 time in Maine and throughout 2022.

Ledge Hill Trails Project Status - September 16, 2021



This image accurately summarizes the project and the exact point at which we reach the perimeter trail loop closure. Again it was so fitting that a huge boulder was removed to complete the perimeter cutting project. Once Dave found a location to deposit this monster boulder, there was fist pumping and congratulations.

The balance of the day was spent further expanding the size and depth of the first natural spring's pool area. Once the digging as completed, we built a rock wall to enclose the southern side of the pool edge for ensuring no washout or

cave-ins. The final step was locating a dam on the outlet towards raising the pool water level to 4-5'. Dave will be back in 2022 to further expand this pool on the northern side along with cutting a trail to the second natural spring.

How Fitting! Dave Removing Massive Boulder at Perimeter Trail Closure

Global Financial News

Major U.S. market indices are little changed this week. After several months of continual new records, U.S. equity markets are taking a break and consolidating. Morning market futures indicate a flat opening at 9:30 AM.

In Asia, Japan -0.62%. Hong Kong -1.46%. China -1.34%. India +0.76%.

In Europe, at midday, London +0.47%. Paris +1.06%. Frankfurt +0.48%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow -0.07%. S&P -0.12%. NASDAQ -0.24%.

WTI crude pricing has been increasing to $72.52/bbl during the past 48 hours. Energy demand for crude oil and natural gas are rising as the globe appears to be recovering from the Covid Delta variant. Life is returning to "normal" as the U.S. population has been vaccinated or has acquired natural immunities. The 24 hour media and some governments will not let go of the topic however.

Spot gold has pulled back to $1778/oz while a Bitcoin can be purchased for $47964. I'm starting to face the reality that Bitcoin is the new "gold" for many younger individuals who have a need for an alternate store of wealth.

The 10 Year U.S Treasury bond yield stands at 1.32%.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Today brings a full day in the GFRC office other than heading into Windham and purchasing a new Samsung cellphone. There is much to catch-up on in terms of shipping and posting new offerings.

The southern Maine five day weather forecast looks quite promising for photographing the many new consignment pieces that are arriving this week.

Thanks again for stopping by at the Blog. Be well!

September 15, 2021

More GFRC New Offerings to Consider

and

Excellent Progress on the Northern Ledge Hill Trails Perimeter Walking Path

Greetings on a Wednesday morning and welcome to the Daily Blog. Thanks for staying abreast of GFRC happenings.

Tired and sore best description how I feel this morning after eight hours in the back acreage project on Tuesday. My deal with Dave Wilkinson is simple. He stays in the excavator and maximize his heavy lifting and digging capabilities while I work on the ground handling the chain saw workload along with moving smaller branches and logs. This arrangement bore substantial fruit on Tuesday and we made excellent progress on the northern path and rebuilding the adjacent stone wall. As I've mentioned before, boulder and rock material is not an issue on the property.

Today's Blog will again be brief as Dave is back again at 7:45 AM for the final day of trail cutting.

I was up at 4:00 AM to ensure that there is a coin galley for today's edition. Daily Blog editions without coins can be a dull online destination.

In terms of fresh consignments, over 100 coins will be arriving to the GFRC office in the next 72 hours with about 60% CAC approved. The combined value for these shipments is roughly $200,000. You will want to stay close to the Blog in the coming week as new arrivals are processed and announced.

If the 100+ consigned coins were not enough, I have an appointment during the next 36 hours with a preferred supplier to review a large wholesale deal. This is another exciting development as the GFRC team prepares for the forthcoming Manchester NH coin show on September 30 through October 2.

The clock is ticking so best to move along with numismatic and back acreage commentary before fueling the chain saw for another busy day.

More GFRC New Offerings to Consider

Following is a bit of an eclectic coin gallery with both new purchases and consigned offerings. All pieces have been priced and will be posted to the price list on Thursday.

Seated dollar collectors will immediately appreciate the importance of the 1862 PCGS AU50 offering. This piece is untoned and features a bold strike along with reflective surfaces. The 1828 1/2 cent has been accurately captured by GFRC photography and resides in old PCGS Rattler holder. Strike is complete with choice surfaces. The superbly toned

1874 Arrows dime has been pulled from my personal reference collection boxes. This piece is unlisted, in terms of die variety, and has not been to CAC. It will be added to the web-book as part of the sales process.

The balance of the new offerings including a fully struck and pleasing 1838 F-112 dime, a scarce 1851 PCGS EF40 quarter with natural coloring, and finally an 1812/1 O-102a Capped Bust half that is crusty original.

More GFRC New Offerings to Consider

Please Email for Price Quote - Posting to Price List on Thursday

1862 PCGS AU50 $1

1828 PCGS MS63BN CAC Rattler 1/2C

1873 Arrows Unlisted NGC MS62 10C

1838 F-112 PCGS AU53 CAC 10C

1851 PCGS EF40 25C CAC 50C

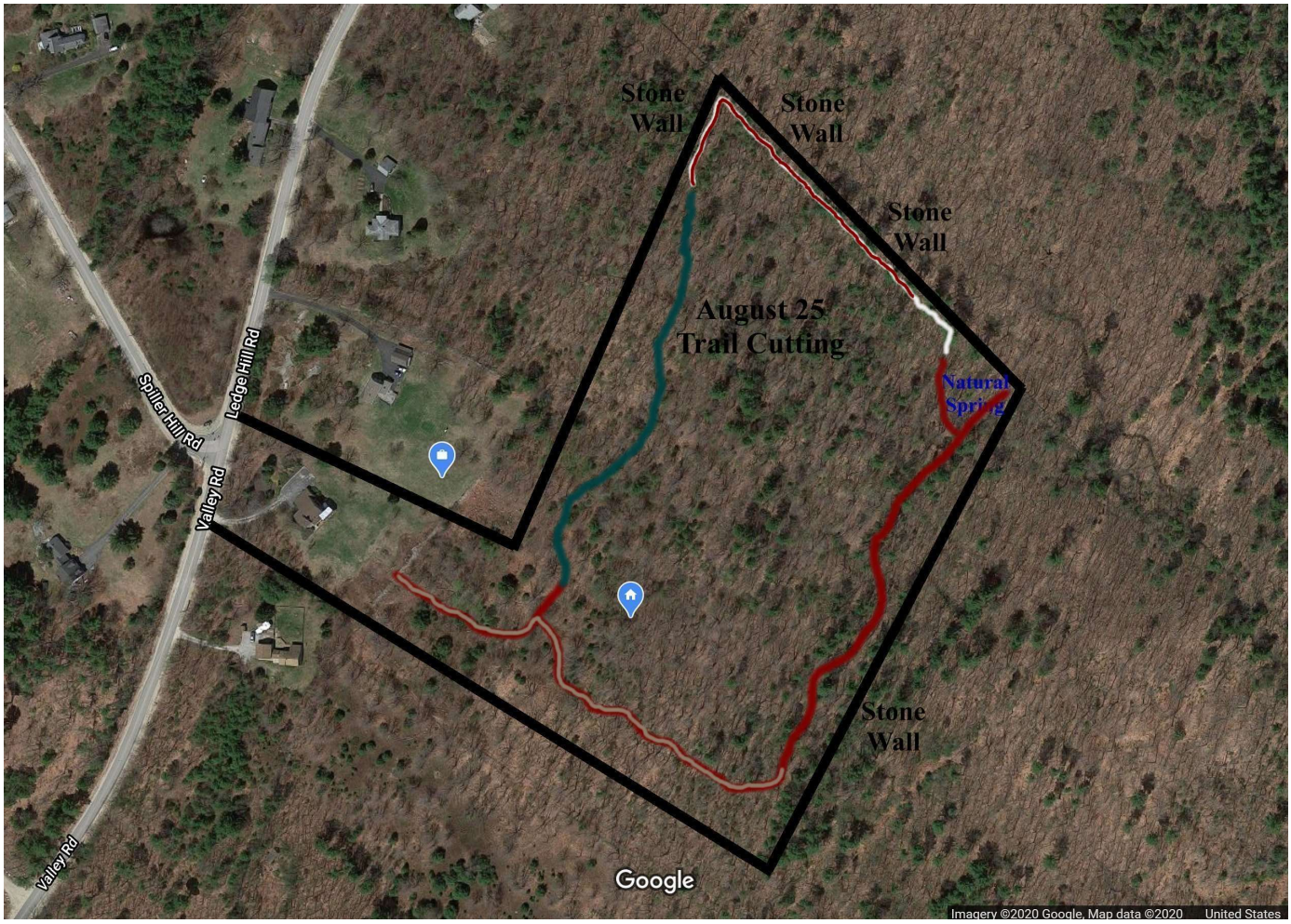
1812/1 O-102a PCGS VF30

Excellent Progress on the Northern Ledge Hill Trails Perimeter Walking Path

I could not be more pleased with Tuesday's progress in the back acreage project. Dave and I hit the trail immediately after the Blog was published and worked straight from 8:00 AM until 4:20 PM without lunch or breaks. We were on a mission to get this portion of the project done to allow time for further expanding the first natural spring's pool area on Wednesday, weather permitting.

Below is an updated map of Tuesday's progress on the northern trail. The white line with overlaid red marks the trail cutting status. It should be apparent that we are close to connecting to last year's uphill cutting effort that was abandoned due to time and rocky terrain. I quickly learned that Dave can move more rapidly when working downhill rather than uphill. The remaining white line will be cut today with a celebration once the full perimeter trail is in place.

Ledge Hill Trails Project Status - September 15, 2021



This image was taken as a baseline of where we started trail cutting on early Tuesday morning. I am standing close to the northern point of the property and looking downhill (southeast) into the forest. Every brown boulder and rock has been freshly removed from the ground and added to the original settler's stone wall. The path is about 8' wide with a host of residual roots that must be manually cut.

Tuesday's Starting Point, Northern Corner Looking Downhill

This image was taken at 4:30 PM Tuesday as we exited the project. I am standing a tad lower on the path as compared to the above image. The progress was amazing given the number of trees that was dropped along with stump removal. Dave extracted a huge amount of rocks and boulders and rebuilt the stone wall as we moved along. There was old barb wire to contend with and dead trees that could drop branches on top of us when being cut.

Dave said it well when he commented that the northern trail will be the most eye appealing walking path within the entire project.

Tuesday End of Day, Northern Corner Looking Downhill - Amazing Progress

Click on Image for High Resolution Version

This image was taken at the bottom of the cut trail before heading back to the top of the property and calling it a day. The original stone wall was not in the best of shape and partially buried by over a century of composted leaves and sediment. Dave did his best to dig out the front on the old wall while adding new rocks.

Tuesday End of Day, Bottom Looking Uphill - What a New Stone Wall!

This image was selected among many taken to illustrate the day's challenge. The foreground shows the condition of the original stone wall and the amount of trees that required removal. Let's remember that we are working in a dense forest with every cut tree becoming hung up against existing trees. My role was to cut trees well ahead of Dave's excavator to ensure that no branches or tree tops would fall on his machine. This image shows three leaning trees that are awaiting the excavator's arrival. Dave will carefully push the trees down with his powerful bucket followed by yours truly cutting up the trunks into 8' sections. Dave then using his thumb to pick up the large trunk pieces and drop into the forest on the left. Talk about plenty of firewood if I needed such. Instead, the logs will be left in the woods to decompose and feed the earth.

This image also finds Dave manhandling a huge boulder and placing on the stone wall. His rock wall building experience was readily apparent throughout the day.

Sawn Trees and Adding Boulders to Stone Wall

Click on Image for High Resolution Version

Wrapping Up The Blog

Though the weather forecast is assuring me of dry conditions, a light rain is currently falling and will make today's final push a bit wet and muddy since my role of that of being the boots on the ground.

There will be no shipping today given the lack of time for staging such. All pending orders with check arrivals will be shipped on Thursday.

Thanks for stopping by at the Blog. Tomorrow will bring a regular edition.

Be well!

September 14, 2021

A Fresh GFRC Consignment Wave

and

Completing the Ledge Hill Trails Perimeter Walking Path

Greetings and welcome to the Daily Blog on a Tuesday morning. Thank-you for checking in.

Dave Wilkinson arrives at 7:45 AM for the final push to complete the back acreage perimeter loop. Therefore today's edition will be brief as the Husqvarna must be prepared with fuel and chain oil. Yes, there is a brand new chain bar and fresh cutting chain for today's effort. Southern Maine weather will be ideal with a daytime high of only 69F. Yes, the autumn season has arrived with slowly decreasing high temperatures.

My apology for the lack of fresh coin images into today's edition. More new purchases were photographed on Monday and will be posted this evening as a Blog preview once i am out of the woods.

A Fresh GFRC Consignment Wave

After announcing the commitment of a Liberty Seated dollar collection for the GFRC Online Auctions platform on Monday, incremental good news arrived during the afternoon hours. Discussions with a GFRC consignor have resulted in a commitment to ship his substantial Liberty Seated coinage holdings to the Maine office in the next 48 hours. *Substantial* is the operative word here. Marketing details will be released once I have a shipping invoice and the lot arrives and is carefully reviewed for next steps.

In addition to the above, I will be approving the shipment of a lovely twelve piece consignment from a fairly new GFRC client. This shipment is 50% CAC approved with a number of proof specimens.

Finally, the Sooner Collection has shipped a small consignment that will arrive on Wednesday.

In total, these numerous shipment will bring over 100 quality coins into the Raymond office during forthcoming week.

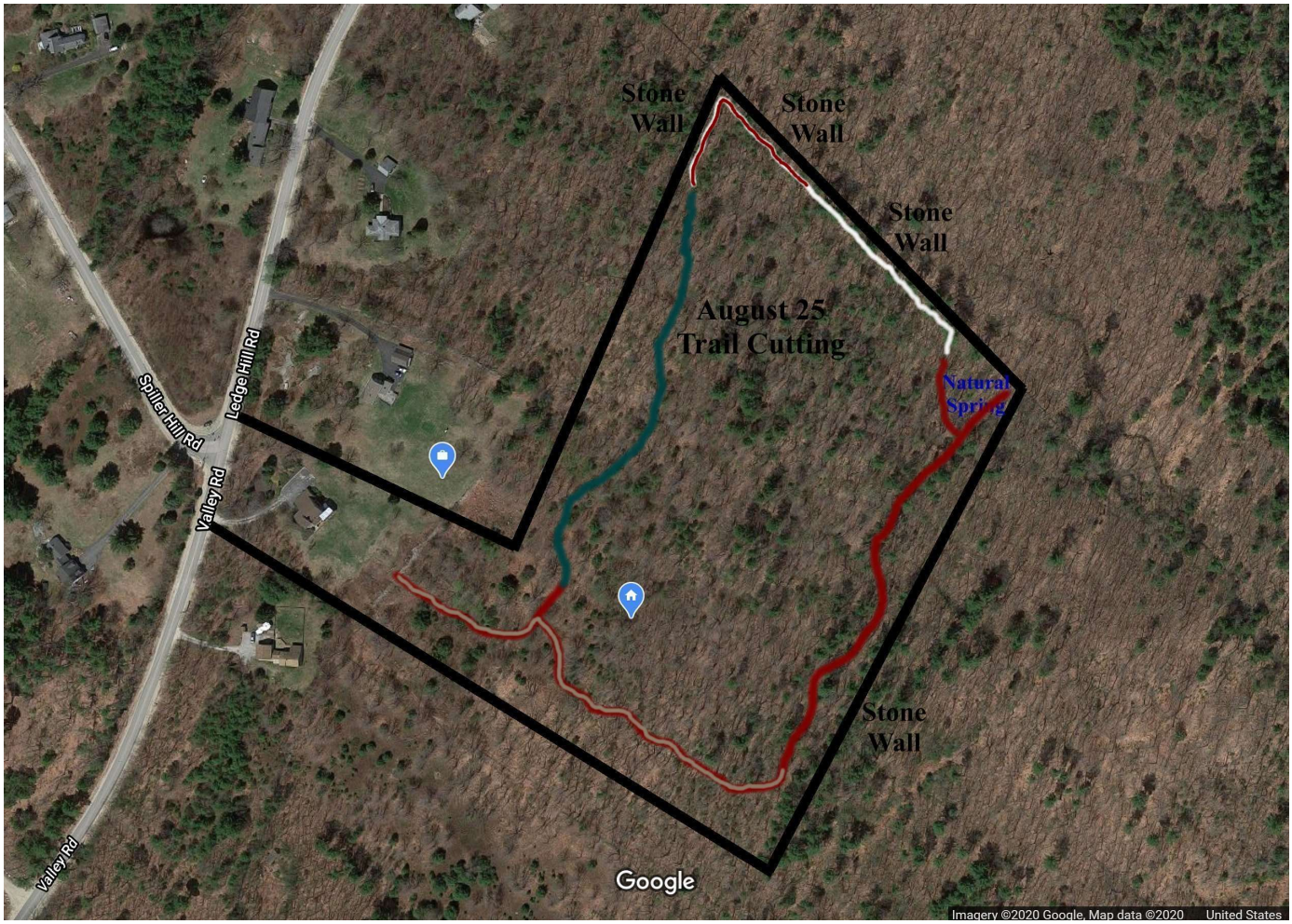
Completing the Ledge Hill Trails Perimeter Walking Path

If there appears to be a sense of urgency to move the Ledge Hill Trails project to completion, you are correct in that assessment. Our remaining time at the Maine homestead is dwindling as November approaches. Come early November, Maine weather can be unpredictable with snow arriving at any time. My attention also shifts preparation for the Whitman Baltimore show, the Florida migration, and once again winterizing the homestead for the winter of 2021-2022.

The next two days bring the final push to complete the back acreage perimeter trail. I'm expecting some rough going through downward sloping terrain and a thick rock field. While cutting through forest and rocks, Dave and I will be rebuilding the northern property line stone wall as well.

Following is an updated project map that captures progress with lining the southern trail with 1.5" gravel. I've turned the bottom southern corner and now working on the trail section that leads to the natural spring. The overriding challenge for this project is material transport that is becoming painfully apparent. Given the nature of the narrow trails, it is not possible to stage 1.5" stone and 1.5" gravel mix other than at the intersection point between the main pathway and the entrances to the southern and northern routes. Dave's smaller dump truck is unable to fit in these trail let alone a large enough space for turnaround and load dumping. Lining the walking trails means considerable time on the JD2025R to move one bucket of material to its destination point. Already, the tractor has 105 usage hours since delivery in May. That number will climb quickly due to the long material transport distances. Without walking trail lining, it is not feasible to move the tractor about given the uneven terrain and the many subtle depressions left by large rock removal. Again, Dave's excavator is a crude instrument and not designed as a trail finishing machine. The gravel is critical for executing a smooth walking trail for family and friends.

Ledge Hill Trails Project Status - September 14, 2021



Wrapping Up The Blog

Time is such a precious commodity. It is best to wrap up the Blog at this point.

Please check back tomorrow morning as I will be sharing more images of the final push down the northern rock litter trail section and the obstacles that were encountered.

I will have my cellphone with me and will respond to phone calls if not handling the chain saw. Purchase order emails will be answered during the later afternoon hours.

Thanks again for checking in at the Blog. Be well.

September 13, 2021

A New Artwork Prescription from Dr. Durazo!

and

GFRC Online Auctions Awarded Liberty Seated Dollar Collection

Greetings on a Monday morning and welcome to another Daily Blog edition. An important week lies ahead!

Sunday afternoon brought about a special occasion; an outdoor block party that featured the reunion of Raymond friends from years past.

Our hosts were Steve and Joyce Crockett who own a substantial piece of land in Raymond. Through their "backyard" flows a creek that eventually empties into Sebago lake. During the past few years, Steve sold his retail furniture business and has retired. Other than spending more time on his boat off the coast of Maine, he decided to convert the creek into a large pond. Five days with a large excavator brought about the end result which we celebrated yesterday afternoon. There were kegs of Shipyard and Pabst Blue Ribbon beer, a Portland area rock band and the gathering of old neighbors we had not seen in years. There was Raul and Christina, Steve and Lou-Ann, Terry and Lynn, Mark and Patti, and others with much catching up on lives and grand children. Raul is a fantastic guy and Cuban immigrant who played in bands in south Florida before moving to Maine. We had Raul and his local band play at our homestead block party during 1988. Raul shared stories of playing in the Miami clubs with Rudy Sarzo (another Cuban immigrant) who later went to Los Angeles and became famous with White Snake, Dio, Quiet Riot, and Ozzie Osbourne. Steve Milton and I were Little League baseball coaches together when sons Matt and Brandon were growing up. There are many stories to tell. Raul and I have made an appointment for a basement sound room session next week. He will be bringing his favorite Cuban music for the Focal/Naim system.

Monday means back to work at the GFRC online coin shop, at least for today. More to follow as we proceed through today's Blog.

A New Artwork Prescription from Dr. Durazo!

Dr. Durazo continues to read the Blog and watch over my mental health as a close Tenafly friend. This weekend brought the arrival of Susan's latest artwork and prescription. Indeed, I will "Continue Paving the Way" on the back acreage project this week and taking time off from the daily GFRC office grind. It is straightforward to follow the good doctor's orders.

Dave Wilkinson and I will be trail cutting on Tuesday with Wednesday as an additional day if required to complete the back 20 acre perimeter loop. Seeing Steve Crockett's pond project in its full glory brings renewed motivation to further expand the first natural spring and maybe redirect water flow from the second and higher spring. Please keep reading the Blog to learn of forthcoming ideas.

GFRC Online Auctions Awarded Liberty Seated Dollar Collection

I'm pleased to report that the GFRC Online Auctions platform has been selected to handle a substantial Liberty Seated dollar collection during the November-December time frame. The GFRC client made a careful decision to sell his well prepared collection and cited the ongoing Daily Blog educational content as a key reason for selecting GFRC. Details will be held in confidence until the lot ships to the GFRC office during the next two weeks. Once on site, the full scope of this important Seated Dollar auction event will be shared.

Global Financial News

U.S. equities closed last week's short trading period on a down note. The DJiA has pulled back to 34,607 while the NASDAQ is still above 15,000. Morning market futures bring optimism as a new trading week arrives.

In Asia, Japan +0.22%. Hong Kong -1.5%. China +0.33%. India -0.27%.

In Europe, at midday, London +0.55%. Paris +0.55%. Frankfurt +0.84%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow +0.55%. S&P +0.48%. NASDAQ +0.4%.

There is little to discuss concerning the 10 Year Treasury bond yield and commodities. Paper gold continues to trade between $1785-1820/oz. WTI crude has moved up to $70.61 while a Bitcoin can be purchased for $44631. The 10 Year bond yield stands at 1.33%.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Since I will be working in the woods all day Tuesday, today brings a full day in the GFRC office.

Morning shipping is substantial with the afternoon bringing photography of newly purchased CAC approved Seated half dimes, Capped Bust halves, and Morgan dollars. The balance of the Osprey gold will also be posted to the price list.

Please don't be bashful with consignment proposal or a major collection for the GFRC Online Auctions platform.

Also please remember that bidding opens in just twelve days for the Part 1 offerings of the *Oregon Beaver Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale.*

Thank-you for stopping by at the Daily Blog. Be well!

September 12, 2021

Eclectic U.S. Gold from the Osprey Collection

and

Presenting the Remodeled Homestead Back Deck

Greetings and welcome to the Blog on a peaceful Sunday morning. I hope that the imagery in this edition is worth the visit.

September is moving along much too quickly, but this happens during a busy life. A few Saturday morning hours were spent on the JD2025R in the back acreage after morning shipping was staged for Diane. The afternoon saw a trip to Windham for new Husqvarna chain saw bar and fresh chain for the upcoming week's trail cutting. Speaking of trail cutting, I walked the remaining undisturbed forest along the northern stone wall on Friday and came to the realization that cutting the final trail section will take two days of effort. The remaining perimeter path takes us through a downward sloping rock field that is quite uneven. A huge downed pine tree must be cut apart for movement with Dave's excavator. Some back and forth text messaging with Dave Wilkinson brought a commitment for a Tuesday and Wednesday excavator appointment to complete the perimeter loop and reconstruction of the northern stone wall. Of course, I am excited to think that the vision of a perimeter walking trail will be taking a major step forward during the coming week.

Saturday afternoon also saw the assembling of new wood rocking chairs for the remodeled back deck and time in the GFRC office to process today's U.S. gold image gallery. The exceptional 1870-CC PCGS VF35 CAC Seated half also sold during the afternoon hours after a pleasant chat with the new owner.

Once this Daily Blog edition is uploaded, the balance of the morning sees me back on the JD2025R and continuing gravel application on the southern trail that leads to the natural spring aka. a 2022 goldfish pond project.

Eclectic U.S. Gold from Hound Dog Dan

Dan White does it again with an eclectic offering of $3, $5, and $10 gold for your consideration. This lot features some very low grade CAC approved $5 gold that would be ideal for Lowball set builders. The balance is wide ranging from an 1855-S $3 gold piece to a gorgeous 1907 Liberty $10 piece that is housed in a 1989 Gen 2.1 holder with CAC approval.

All offerings in the following gallery have been priced. If there is potential interest, please send along an email for a price quote. This lot will start posting to the price list this evening.

Eclectic U.S. Gold from the Osprey Collection

Please Email for Price Quotations

1855 NGC F15 G$3

1856 PCGS AU55 CAC G$3

1880-CC NGC VF25 G$5 **1892-CC NGC EF45 G$5**

1847-C PCGS FR02 CAC G$5 **1867-S PCGS G04 CAC OGH G$5** **1880-S PCGS VF35 G$5**

1881 PCGS AU53 G$5 **1887-S PCGS AG03 CAC G$5** **1896-S PCGS AU50 G$5**

1901-S PCGS EF40 G$5 **1907 PCGS MS61 CAC OGH G$10**

Remodeled Homestead Back Deck is Completed

Quality workmanship is a given when Pete Theberge tackles an improvement project at the homestead. This past week brought the completion of the composite back deck along with modern see through railings. Diane ordered classy wood rocking chairs which were assembled on Saturday afternoon. The grill was moved to its new location resulting in this photo opportunity. The new deck projects 12' from the house and brings a substantial amount of usable space. The railing system will facilitate the full enjoyment of the coming foliage color transition.

I'm certain that Len Augsburger will wish to return to the Raymond office for auction cataloging and 5:00 PM time on this new back deck with an adult beverage...

Our final step for populating the new deck is procuring a table fire pit fueled by a well disguised propane tank. The fire pit will come in handy during cool October evenings along with doubling as an eating table during the warmer summer months.

First Remodeled Homestead Back Deck Images

GFRC Online Auctions Update

Discussions continue with two past/current consignors concerning potential GFRC Online Auction events for the November and December time frame. If either of the discussions produce an agreement to move forward, my calendar will be completely booked through the end of 2021.

November brings a very busy month given the Whitman Baltimore show and the annual Florida migration. Let's not forget Thanksgiving and the traditional Black Friday Sale event for slower moving consigned items.

The hunt is already underway for incremental auction consignment proposals that would be targeted for the January and February 2022 time frame.

Wrapping Up The Blog

As today's Blog edition comes to closure, there are seven large black crows hanging out in the front landscaping. How I enjoy living in the country.

Now that the Blog is published for another day, I'm heading directly to the back acreage with the JD2025R until lunch time. Please understand that I will not be responding to email pricing inquiries for the posted U.S. gold, or regular price list orders, until the noon hour.

Wishing everyone a peaceful Sunday. Be well!

September 11, 2021

GFRC Attains $9,000,000 Consignment Proceeds Milestone!

Two Superb Gem Original Seated Offerings

and

Important Liberty Seated Dime Varieties and Plate Coins Find New Home

Greetings on a lovely southern Maine autumn morning and welcome to yet another Daily Blog edition. As always, thank-you for stopping by.

Yes, the front landscaping view outside the office window has begun its annual color transition. How I love the September and October months during each year. Starting with Sunday's Blog, the autumn foliage shift from greens to crimson, yellows, and orange shades will be captured from the newly constructed back deck. Much positive feedback arrived during the 2020 weekend back acreage foliage updates. So let's conduct a repeat performance for the 2021 Fall season.

There is much to discuss in today's edition but first, let's go to a new Seth Godin blogpost that garnered my attention. The following blogpost was a reminder that the Daily Blog effort is worthwhile for a host of reasons. Godin reinforces the day by day efforts (drop by drop) to bring a unique difference to the numismatic market while influencing individual collector journeys.

Seth Godin Blogpost: We are not astronomers

Unlike most of the sciences, astronomy is always done at a distance. You can see the stars, but you can't do anything about them.

Sometimes the media would like us to believe that we're all astronomers, simply passive witnesses in a world out of our control.

But the world is never out of our influence.

Remembrance, connection, possibility, invention, empathy, insight, correction, care and justice are all up to us.

We not only observe, but we make changes happen. Our participation (or apathy) leads to a different future.

The ocean is made of drops. And the drops are up to us. Who else is going to care enough to make an impact?

GFRC Attains $9,000,000 Consignment Proceeds Milestone!

I'm pleased to report that the GFRC business has reached yet another noteworthy milestone; $9,000,000 in consignment proceeds since inception during 2014.

This milestone crept up on me. I was a bit surprised at how quickly this achievement was reached but should not be considering the impact of the GFRC Online Auction platform on sales. Client acceptance of the new auction platform has been beyond expectations with nearly continuous monthly auction presentations. Currently, I am in discussions with two individuals who are contemplating the sale of multi-year collecting achievements. If either gentleman decides to move forward, the November through January time frame could be quite exciting.

The next $10,000,000 milestone will be a huge vote of confidence for the GFRC business. Maybe, a special give-away prize event is in order for the client that can predict the day of that achievement? This is just an idea that is floating about in my mind. Please stay close to the Blog as we start approaching that seven figure milestone.

For those who are new to the Daily Blog and GFRC, the Consign link presents a real time counter of the number of consigned coins sold and total proceeds returned to consignors. Shortly, GFRC will also reach the 10,000 consigned coin plateau. Who would have thought these sales levels would be possible when a tiny Liberty Seated dime hobby business was launched during 2014?

Two Superb Gem Original Seated Offerings

The past week has seen some downright awesome new purchases. Highlighting several new purchasing events are the following two gem Liberty Seated coinage pieces. We start with an amazing 1870-CC WB-4 Liberty Seated half dollar with superb coloring and residual semi-proof like fields. This is a coin that I am falling in love with and wish that it could hang around in inventory through the Whitman Baltimore show. CAC population is only three at VF35 grade and a single AU50 finer. This gem probably won't last long given the exceptional preservation state and eye appeal. This is one of those silver pieces with multiple visual personalities depending on the viewing angle and lighting conditions. In-hand coloring is an illustrated below. Tilting the coin forward under a bright light melts the darker shades into center rose surrounded by peripheral light gold. Experienced collectors know exactly what I am seeing. If placing the coin on the desk with just angled office window lighting, the coloring is rich rose and blues. This key date has been keeping me company on the desk since its arrival. As a final note, I shared this piece to Diane without bright light. She immediately reverts with the question as to why only a VF35 assigned grade as the coloring and overall eye appeal is that of a higher grade piece. Way to go girl!

Also arriving this week and already sold is the finest mid-circulated grade 1842-O Small Date quarter that I've had the privilege of handling. The gray-blue coloring is simply stunning. The images speak for themselves.

Two Superb Gem Original Seated Offerings

1870-CC WB-4 PCGS VF35 CAC 50C

1842-O Small Date, PCGS VF25 CAC 25C

Important Liberty Seated Dime Varieties and Plate Coins Move to the Cleveland Collection

As time goes on, it is becoming more difficult to release the remaining web-book plate coins. There are several reasons behind this difficulty. First is the "moving to the top of the ladder" situation where the final Liberty Seated dimes are some of my favorites and nearly impossible to replace. Once these are gone, the chance to own another equivalent example of that die variety is close to impossible. Secondly, the GFRC business and back acreage project are consuming most of my waking hours and providing an good excuse to not sell the "top of the ladder" varieties. I must give a shout out to the Cleveland Collection consignor for his unwavering persistence for constructing a top Liberty Seated Dime Ultimate set in the Open Set Registry. He has been requesting these pieces for over six months and I finally relented this week. Congratulations go out to the Cleveland Collection on two wicked good acquisitions.

Important Liberty Seated Dime Varieties and Plate Coins Find New Home

1845 F-106a PCGS MS63 Gold CAC 10C **1862 F-105 NGC MS63 10C**

Wrapping Up The Blog

Yesterday brought a full day in the GFRC office. If I am not careful, everyday could be spent in the office as business levels continue to expand.

The planned trip to Windham to secure a replacement Husqvarna chain saw blade will take place today. Once morning shipping is arranged for Diane, I am heading into the back acreage with the JD2025R for a few hours of relaxation spreading more 1.5" gravel on the southern trail. It has been a busy week with several hours of personal time being overdue.

Thanks for visiting with me at the Blog. Wishing everyone a lovely mid-September weekend.

September 10, 2021

Oregon Beaver *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Catalogs are Available!

Be the First to Get Your Oregon Beaver Part 1 PDF Catalog

Greetings and welcome to a Friday Daily Blog edition. Much has transpired since we last met just 24 hours ago.

Southern Maine has been blessed with consistent rains this summer with the same weather pattern holding through September. Last evening, Diane noted that our landscaping and lawns have remained green throughout the summer months. Forest green is a soothing color for one's psyche and probably why I thoroughly enjoy residing in a rural forest setting.

Thursday brought another rainy day that was conducive for bringing the Oregon Beaver Collection auction sale to reality. After brief morning shipping, the balance of the day saw me in the office carefully preparing the Oregon Beaver PDF catalog and finalizing Part 1 sale reserve prices. I am most pleased to be presenting both the online and PDF Oregon Beaver catalogs for your end of week viewing enjoyment. A promise made (September 10 publishing goal) has been a promise kept. Did another important person use this line?

While keenly focused on Oregon Beaver's Collection offerings, FedEx and USPS each brought express packages with a total of ten new purchases. The highlights are a beautifully original 1842-O Small Date PCGS VF25 CAC Liberty Seated quarter that is 100% fresh to the market and a glorious gem 1870-CC PCGS VF35 CAC Liberty Seated half dollar that also has been off the market for years. I am simply blown away by the quality of these new purchases and thankful to those who sold the coins to me. Relationships, relationships, and relationships are an imperative in our hobby. I'm certain a few GFRC clients will go out of bounds and request First Rights of Refusal since I dare mention these new purchases in the Blog. I'm sorry to disappoint but these pieces are so strong that they will be placed with those clients who have supported the GFRC business on a long term basis. Again, relationships do matter when exceptional pieces arrive to the market.

Kudos go out to GFRC Online Auctions staff cataloger, Len Augsburger, for yet another round of professionally prepared Oregon Beaver auction descriptions. There is no one better in the business than Len! As a teaser for the forthcoming Oregon Beaver Collection Part 2 sale, following is Len's commentary for a gorgeous 1875 Seated half.

Oregon Beaver's 1875 PCGS MS62 CAC 50C - Part 2 Sale

Throw out the price guide on this one. For certain pieces, the traditional process of gathering published pricing data, along with auction prices realized, simply doesn't get the job done. Pricing guide publishers are stymied when it comes to quantifying the superb eye appeal of examples such as this, and a single number simply can't characterize the range of aesthetic appeal that one might find across one numerical grade. Indeed, it would not be hard to find a washed out, white example of this coin in a PCGS or NGC holder on a bourse floor, and yet that piece will sell for a fraction of the price, even if the same technical grade. This piece exhibits frosty centers that contrast strongly with the mirrored fields, all framed by electric blue and russet patina at the rims. Surfaces are semi-proof like, with intense, reflective luster. Coins with this level of eye appeal are difficult to price, and GFRC will be watching along with everyone else to see where the bidding takes this gem. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder with CAC approval.

Oregon Beaver *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Catalogs are Available!

That's right! Please visit the Auction link to access the Oregon Beaver Collection's online catalog. Reserves have been finalized and posted with ample time for research and developing a bidding strategy come September 25.

For those who have decided to start collecting GFRC Online Auction PDF catalogs, the Oregon Beaver Collection Part 1 catalog is now available. Be the first to download and review the newest Liberty Seated coinage offerings. You will immediately note a format change for auctions with smaller lot sizes. I've increased image sizes which results in two offerings per page. Numismatics is a visual hobby, therefore why not place the emphasis on coin images when a PDF catalog provides for unlimited publishing space?

Be the First to Get Your Oregon Beaver *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Catalog

Click on Catalog Cover to Download PDF File

Presenting the
Oregon Beaver Collection
***Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* - Part 1**
September 25, 2021 – October 2, 2021

A special Liberty Seated half dollar offering from a long time GFRC client with unquestionable consistency at the AU and Mint State grade levels. Originality and eye appeal are the rule!

- 54 Offerings across Two Noteworthy Sales
- A Host of CAC Approved Lots!
- Beautiful Natural Toning
- Challenging Dates and Die Varieties

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction

Are We Living in the Numismatic Hobby Golden Days?

The darkest of clouds can sometimes have a golden lining...

Yes, the Covid-19 pandemic has been a terrible event in modern history. However, the forced isolation from the pandemic has unleashed a new golden age for numismatics. Baby Boomers with countless hours of free time turned to a long ago hobby to find satisfaction within a life. The result has been unprecedented demand for quality coins. The "CAC effect" has further solidify the investment value of top tier premium coins. CAC prices continue to climb as demand far outstrips supply. When compared to NFTs, premium early type coins and U.S. gold remain undervalued at current guide levels. The issue is locating someone who wishes to sell their holdings.

The response to my question is yes, we are living in the numismatic hobby's golden days. Instead of being driven by speculatory bullion prices, the current hobby is focused on value with the age old rule of supply and demand. There are too many financial enabled collectors pursuing a limited number of top tier coins. The thrill of the hunt is back with a vengeance!

Now is the Time to Work with GFRC

Every collector moves through a life with financial cycles. There are times of excess disposable income that can be applied to hobbies. There are other times when hobby assets must be sold to fund a second retirement home or other

important needs. If finding one's self in the latter category and needing to sell numismatic holdings, why not consider GFRC as your partner?

Selling valuable numismatic holdings during a period of heighten market demand translate into top prices for your coins. Please add in GFRC's very competitive commission rates and one on one consulting into a divestment consideration. GFRC is not close to being the largest dealer and auction house in the market, however, our online presence and reputation expand by the day for a simple reason; trustworthiness and fair dealings. No one in the hobby takes the time to write a daily blog with complete transparency of a life. Who else is straight on problematic coins and not bashful about protecting clients from a deceitful purchase?

I would enjoy hearing from you...

Global Financial News

We find U.S. equity market traders in an upbeat mode as a short trading week closes. Morning market futures are pointing to a 0.5% gain at the opening 9:30 AM bell.

This week has been notable for Bitcoin volatility with 10% daily price movements. On the other hand, traditional money aka. physical gold, has been rock steady at the $1800/oz level give or take a few dollars.

Following are morning market futures courtesy of Seeking Alpha.

In Asia, Japan +1.3%. Hong Kong +1.9%. China +0.3%. India closed.

In Europe, at midday, London +0.4%. Paris +0.4%. Frankfurt +0.3%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow +0.5%. S&P +0.4%. NASDAQ +0.4%.

WTI crude oil pricing is flat at $69.39/bbl along with the 10 Year U.S. Treasury bond yield at 1.33%.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Today brings a partly cloudy southern Maine day after a bout of heavy rain. I will be in the office for most of the day but don't be surprised if I skip out during the mid afternoon hours for a trip to Windham for a new Husqvarna chain saw blade and maybe even a drive to Trader Joes to load up on spicy Asian dishes. And you thought I was going to spend time on the JD2025R in the back acreage, right?

Seriously, there is always so much to do in a life with time being precious. I'll find a balance with supporting GFRC client request while still meeting personal needs.

Thanks for stopping by at the Blog. Be well!

September 9, 2021

Important Seated Dates Posted to the Price List

GFRC Online Auctions Debuts New Bourse Table Runner

and

Publishing Oregon Beaver's *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* PDF Catalog

Greetings and welcome to the Blog on a Thursday morning. Your daily visits are appreciated.

Yours truly slept in this morning and is finally composing at 7:00 AM. As a result, the topics will be quick given an 8:00ish publishing target.

I'm pleased to report that Diane sailed through Wednesday colonoscopy procedure and is the model of health. While the procedure was underway in Portland, a new first in my life took place; a visit to Trader Joes. With an hour for contemplation, I walked the aisles multiple times and studied their alternative food offerings. In particular, the spicy Asian dishes captured my attention. Spicy sauces, pecans, and ginger candies were purchased as a starting point. Plans are underway to drive the 35 minutes one way for a larger purchase of frozen Asian dishes. Visiting a Trader Joes may become as important as a trip to the Maine/NH state line for adult fun at the NH Liquor Store.

Wednesday was pretty much a blur with GFRC shipping before and after Diane's procedure. Once back in the office, a wave of purchase emails were responded to and coins pulled from the safe. Dan White's latest U.S. gold consignment

was delivered and photographed. Pete Theberge completed the back deck which resulted in a large amount of construction debris being organized and transported with the JD2025R to the top of the driveway for trash pickup day.

Finally, the post dinner hours were allocated to posting two important Liberty Seated coinage offerings to the price list.

Important Seated Dates Posted to the Price List

For clients who only check the price list each morning (which is rather amazing and could not be more pleased), the following two coins were posted.

The 1846 dime lasted all of an hour before being requested by two collectors. The 1855-S half remains available with the following price list description.

Rare First Year Issue, Frosted Luster, Well Above Average Strike, Slider AU. First year of San Francisco mint half dollar issue with only 129,950. As you can imagine, the pent up demand for smaller denomination every day currency (as compared to gold) resulted in the entire mintage being placed into circulation. Choice survivors are no where to be found in today's market. Being offered is an important 1855-S survivor that is a slider AU in terms of wear and strike. Most 1855-S survivors are seen with weak obverse denticles and center devices. The strike on this offering is well above average and quite pleasing. Frosted surfaces are covered with light speckled gold. The lower right obverse fields has faint tooling that appears to be a spot removal effort. Afterwards, this piece was dipped. It is highly plausible that PCGS net graded this offering down to EF45 given that dipping is acceptable to this TPG. Housed in PCGS Gen 6.0 holder with WB-4 Arrows Large S attribution on the label.

1846 F-101 PCGS EF40 CAC 10C **1855-S Arrows PCGS EF45 50C**

GFRC Online Auctions Debuts New Bourse Table Runner

At the forthcoming November Baltimore and Winter FUN shows, GFRC has expanded its bourse footprint. I've reserved a double corner presence at the Baltimore show with the full GFRC staff including Gerry, Diane, Dan, and Rose Marie. The same staff with be present at Winter FUN within a three 8' table layout.

Diane was tasked to order more table covers and a new advertising banner for the GFRC Online Auctions business. The new table covers will be black colored with the following runner that arrived this week. Yes, the creases must be ironed out before the first public display.

Posting Oregon Beaver's *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* PDF Catalog

Today's primary office goal is completing the Oregon Beaver's Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale online and PDF catalogs.

As usual, I'm experimenting with the preparation process and have decided to post the PDF catalog first followed by the online version, which illustrates reserve prices. Hopefully, today brings a full day in the office as rains are forecasted. That time will be dedicated to the auction project including publishing the PDF catalog and making reserve recommendations for the client's approval.

As a not so subtle reminder of the fantastic Oregon Beaver Part 1 Seated half dollar offerings, following are highlights.

The Oregon Beaver *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Part 1 Highlights

1840 WB-1, Reverse of 1839, PCGS MS65 CAC 50C

1839 Drapery WB-7 NGC MS63 CAC 50C **1845 WB-2 PCGS AU58 CAC 50C**

1846-O WB-5 Medium Date PCGS MS64 50C **1846 Tall Date WB-13 PCGS MS63 50C**

1849 WB-10 MS63 CAC 50C **1850 WB-2 PCGS MS63 50C**

1852 WB-2 NGC AU55 CAC 50C **1863 PCGS AU58 CAC 50C**

1871-CC WB-6 NGC VF30 50C **1873-CC WB-4 NGC AU58 50C**

Global Financial News

Days have gone by without checking in on the equity markets and commodity prices which should be the mindset for longer term investments. A spot check of U.S. markets revealed the DJIA at slightly above 35,000, the S&P 500 at near record 4515, and the NASDAQ at 15,286. Morning market futures indicates a negative bias come the 9:30 AM opening for another day's trading.

In Asia, Japan -0.6%. Hong Kong -2.3%. China +0.5%. India flat.

In Europe, at midday, London -1.3%. Paris -0.3%. Frankfurt -0.3%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow -0.3%. S&P -0.3%. NASDAQ -0.3%.

We are once again facing a deficit ceiling battle between Congress and Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen. Markets typically don't like these events with traders become cautious.

WTI crude is trading sideways at $69.42/bbl. Ditto for paper gold at an even $1800/oz. Bitcoin took a dip down to $43,000 earlier this week and is recovering at $46,121.

The 10 Year U.S. Treasury bond yield stands at 1.33%, a slightly elevated number of no concern.

Wrapping Up The Blog

It appears that today's edition was written in just an hour's time.

Next up is a quick shower, responding to overnight orders, and the usual morning shipping duties. Afterwards, I'm wearing the GFRC Online Auctions hat for the balance of the day.

Of course, consignment and auction proposals will garner my full attention if being tendered. These types of "distractions" are always welcomed.

Thanks for checking in at the Daily Blog. Be well!

September 8, 2021

GFRC Buys Two CAC Approved Key Seated Dates

and

Back Acreage Trail Cutting Report

Greetings on an early Wednesday morning and welcome to another Blog edition. Thanks for stopping by.

Tuesday brought a particularly long day here at the homestead. I'm doing my best to continually convince my body that calendar age is not relevant. A sharing heart and continual aspirations influence how we age. My belief is of a relationship between strenuous outdoor work and a fit body to do such.

The day started at 5:00 AM with GFRC shipment preparations. Next came Blog composition followed by preparing the Husqvarna chain saw just in time for Dave Wilkinson's arrival at 7:45. By 8:00, the excavator was on the job with noble goals for the day. Like the best made plans, adjustments were required as we faced the realities of a thick forest and hidden rocks.

Though we did not come close to reaching the first natural spring, I am most pleased with yesterday's trail cutting progress. More on that topic shortly with several images.

Oh, Pete Therberge was also at the homestead on Tuesday to wrap up the back deck construction. He will be here again today to install the last of the see through railings.

By 5:30 PM, I was back in the house and made my own dinner since Diane has a colonoscopy procedure today. Afterwards, the GFRC business took priority with order responses, invoice generation, and buying a special key date Liberty Seated coinage deal at 9:00 PM. Here I am again on a Wednesday morning composing another Blog edition.

GFRC Buys Two CAC Approved Key Seated Dates

A long term GFRC client made a decision to raise numismatic funds prior to the upcoming Long Beach show. Emails appeared in my Inbox with images of six important Liberty Seated dimes, quarters, and halves for consideration along with asking prices. How I enjoy doing business in the this manner. The offer prices were play or pass and that I did purchasing four of the six offerings for roughly $15,000. Three of the four pieces are CAC approved.

Unfortunately, I can no longer provide previews or share the dates for new purchases in the Blog. The old First Right of Refusal habit dies hard with aggressive clients. These four pieces will ship today via overnight Express and should arrive tomorrow. Rainy southern Maine weather will preclude photography until Saturday.

As a teaser, two of the pieces are low CAC population key dates that will be quickly absorbed by advanced collectors as pricing will be fair.

Oregon Beaver's *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Part 1 Auction Sale* Update

I'm still targeting the publication of the Oregon Beaver's *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Part 1 Auction Sale* online catalog by this weekend. Remaining is preparing a reserves proposal for the consignor followed by his approval.

Consignments Being Solicited "Again"

It is my job to solicit consignments. The GFRC online price list would be a boring internet destination without consignments.

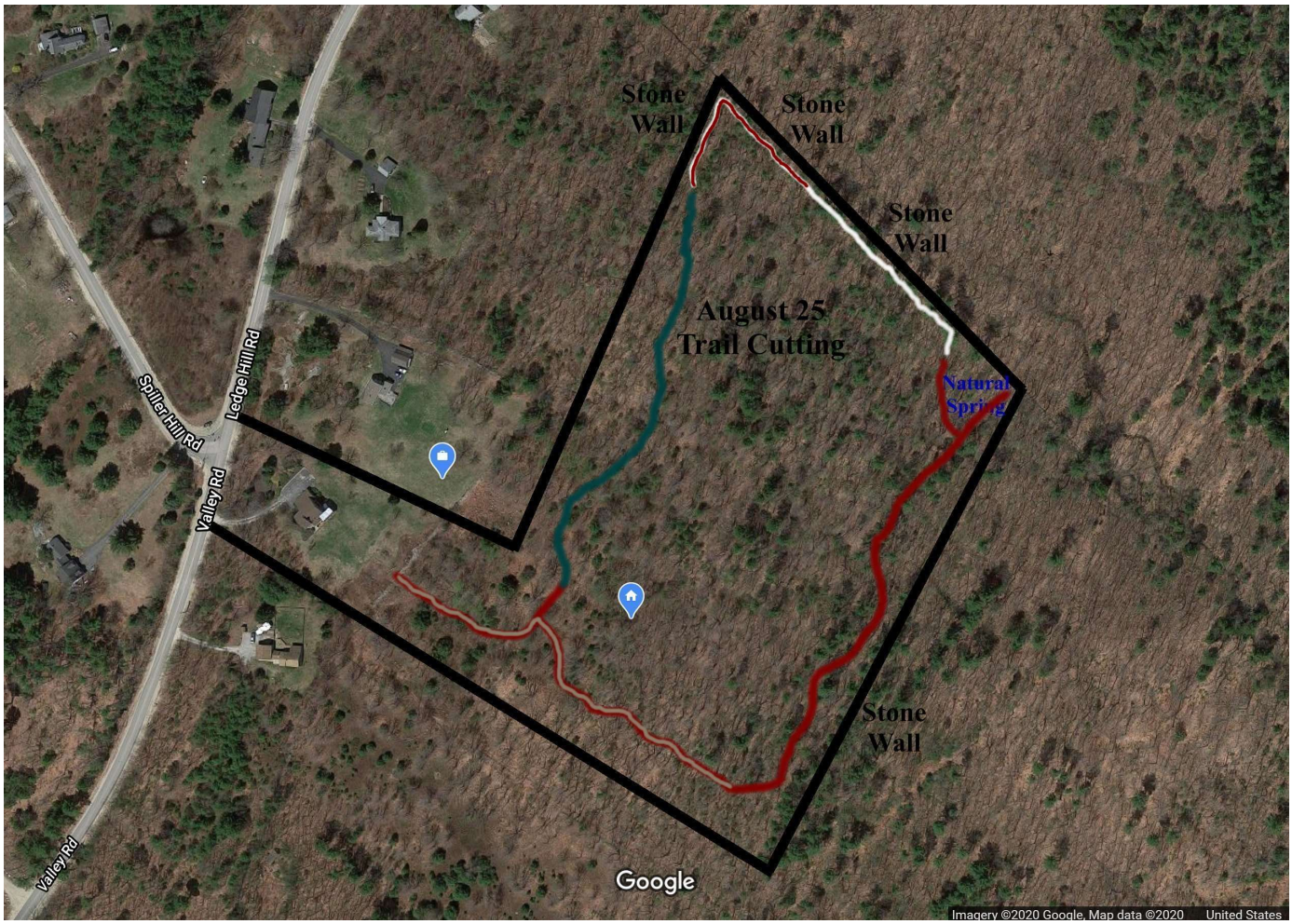
Enough said with your considerations appreciated.

Back Acreage Trail Cutting Report

Again, I am pleased with yesterday's trail cutting progress and realistic concerning the challenges that we encountered.

Please reference the following back acreage Google map and the white line that marks the final trail cutting push to the top most corner of the property followed by heading southeast to the natural spring. I've overlaid the white line with red to illustrate Tuesday's progress.

Ledge Hill Trails Project Status - September 8, 2021



Tuesday started with cutting through about 70' of forest towards an 8' wide settler's stone wall that is mind-blowing. Once reaching the wall (top left of property line on map), Dave and I just stared and contemplated the man-years necessary to build such a structure with wood sleds and horses or mules. Since construction, two paths had been punched through the wall with one being wide enough for a small roadway. In Maine, we call these "tote roads". Given the amount of time and investment in this project, I made a decision to close those wall openings to ensure that no motorbikes or ATV could gain access to the walking paths. This decision took precious time away from the push to the natural spring but was necessary for my peace of mind.

Here is an image of Dave closing the larger "tote road" opening. Clicking on the image provides access to the high resolution photograph for inspection of this amazing settler's wall. Dave marveled at how beautiful this wall would have been circa 1880's when these woods were open pastures.

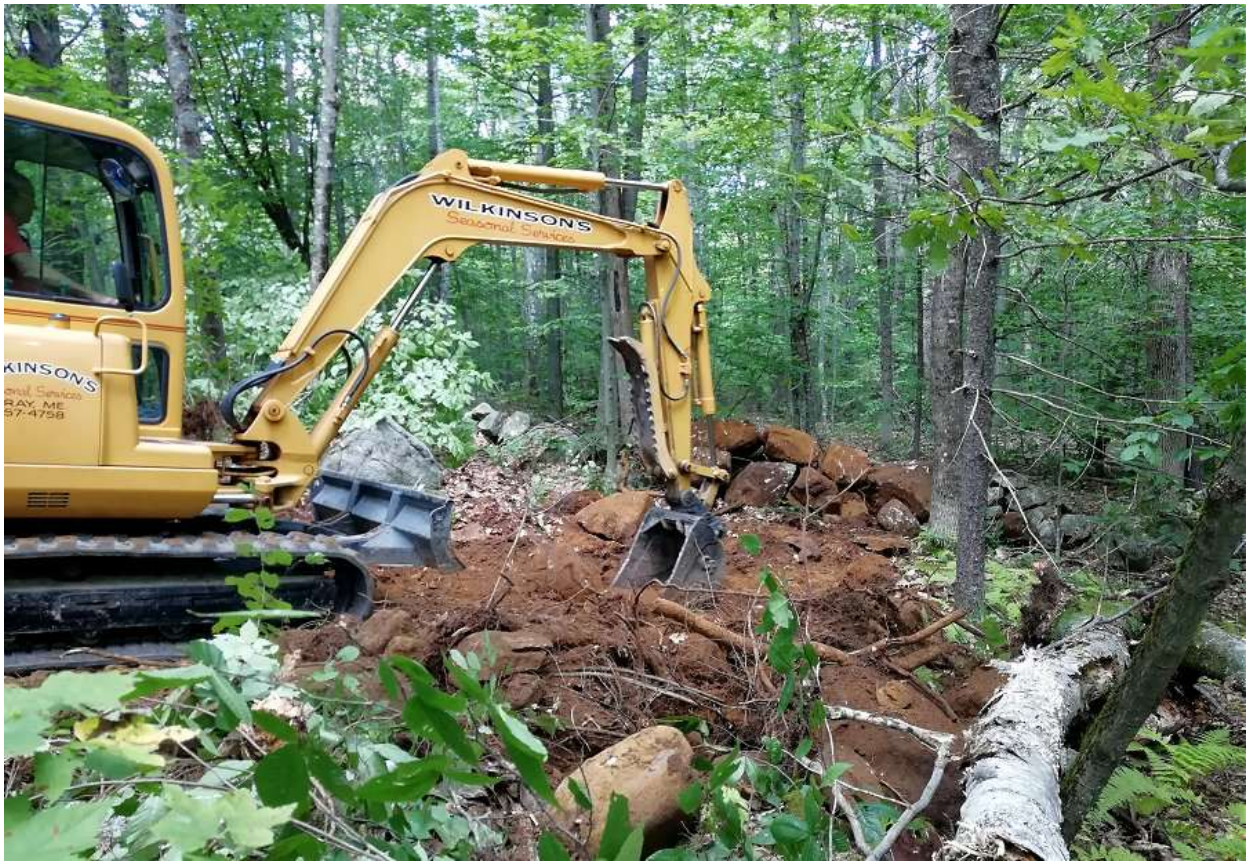
This image attempts to convey the appearance of the settler's wall as I am sitting on the wall and looking northward to the top corner property line. The wall is roughly 8' wide and 4' high. The construction has larger boulders as the outside "frame" with smaller rocks placed in the center section. After 120+ years, the granite rock has weather to a natural gray with much grown vegetation.

We reached the top most point of the back acreage property at roughly 12:30 PM with notably thick tree and rock density. While attempting to cut down a doubled trunk maple tree, the chain saw blade was bent and further slow our progress. Cutting tall trees in a forest leaves no room for error. Dave must use his excavator to push the tree in the direction we wish for it to fall. One of the two double trunks became hang up on adjacent trees with a bound saw blade. We had no choice but to push the trunk down with the excavator at the expense of the chain saw blade.

This image illustrates Dave turning the corner southward at the top of the property. Note the sharp incline and the boulder density. The area adjacent to the northern settler's stone wall is a thick rock fields. This path was constructed immediately adjacent to the wall in the hopes that the rock density would allow easier passage. This was partially the case once turning the corner and heading south. Clicking on the image provides access to a high resolution version for those who wish to inspect the details.

Our progress slowed along the northern wall due to being without a chain saw and another decision to rebuild that wall. This northern wall is sparse and anemic as compared to the prior wall that took us to the top of the top corner of the property. With ample amounts of raw material available, once not slow down and build up this wall to ensure that no motorized vehicles will be able to access the walking paths? As Dave said, "you will only do this once in a lifetime.'

This final image captures the construction of the northern wall. The brown boulders have been extracted from the ground as part of the path clearing process. There was no need to search and mine rocks outside path construction as the rock field was quite dense.



We closed shop at 5:00 PM as Dave was running low on fuel. Both Dave and I were pleased with the day's outcome. Other than a bent chain saw blade, this was one of out best project outings.

Dave will be back next week for the final push to the natural spring. I hope that you have enjoyed this presentation.

Wrapping Up The Blog

I must wrap up the Blog at this point. A shower is in order before taking Diane for her colonoscopy procedure. Peter Theberge also arrives in a few minutes to finish the deck project while we are away for the morning.

Thanks for checking in at the Blog. I will be in the office this afternoon and making ever attempt to catch-up on shipping.

Be well!

September 7, 2021

The Warm-Up Act - Oregon Beaver's Newest Consignment

and

Trail Cutting Day - Naturally Aged Stone Walls to Uncover

Greetings and welcome to the Blog on an early Tuesday morning. Thanks for checking in.

I'm up quite early this morning given a full day of trail cutting that starts at 8:00 AM. The Blog must be composed along with staging shipment preparations for Diane to manage while I'm in the back acreage.

This will be a brief Blog that will be balanced with a longer edition on Wednesday morning.

Much feedback arrived concerning yesterday's personal sharing on Labor Day. Much of the commentary was from similar aged individuals who shared comparable life experiences.

Publishing the Oregon Beaver Collection's Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale online and PDF catalog are this week's primary deliverables to the GFRC community. Len Augsburger's usual authoritative descriptions are done and are awaiting transfer into the COIN system. Wednesday brings catalog preparations so please make a point to check the GFRC Online Auctions link on Thursday to view some mighty fine Seated halves.

The Warm-Up Act - Oregon Beaver's Newest Consignment

Along with the large Seated half dollar auction lot, Oregon Beaver also transferred yet another consignment for the online price list. Offer prices for those pieces were approved during the weekend and enabled their addition to the price list on Monday. Below is a gallery that illustrates the consignment contents.

As usual, Oregon Beaver is able to release early $2.5 gold pieces due to the continual upgrading of his core set. This release contained low mintage 1845 Dahlonega and 1872 San Francisco issues for consideration. The 1877 Philly date has a crazy low mintage of 1,632 with semi-PL surfaces. Sorry, but the 1886 example is already on hold and goes out the door today on a Quick Ship basis. I'm certain the balance of the $2.5 gold will sell quickly once being posted on Collectors Corner.

Wrapping up the latest consignment are several non-gold pieces including a 1931-S Lincoln and two Barber halves. The 1914 PCGS F15 CAC Barber is already on hold. CAC coins continue to see heightened demand once arriving to the price list.

Quality Offerings - Oregon Beaver's Newest Consignment

1845-D PCGS EF45 G$2.5

1872-S PCGS MS61 G$2.5

1877 PCGS AU55 G$2.5

1886 PCGS AU58 CAC G$2.5

1931-S PCGS MS64RB 1C **1911 PCGS AU55 50C** **1914 PCGS F15 CAC 50C**

Consignments Being Solicited "Again"

This week brings the arrival of a new Osprey Collection U.S gold consignment along with a few new purchases. These will be sufficient to keep the price list fresh into the coming weekend. Afterwards, I will be processing some low priced raw Capped Bust half dimes and Liberty Seated dime web-book plate coins from my reference collection.

Bottomline, the consignment backlog has been consumed. If you've been considering the divested of unloved duplicates or an entire collection, the balance of September is wide open for quick turn processing of your items. The numismatic market continues to be hot with GFRC September sales being well ahead of prior years. To maintain that momentum, an ongoing flow of fresh inventory is necessary.

Trail Cutting Day - Naturally Aged Stone Walls to Uncover

Below is a detailed Ledge Hill Trails project map that presents current status and today's trail cutting goals. Unquestionably, the construction of a full perimeter walking trail loop is a huge undertaking. But persistence, on a multi-year basis, will bring this dream to reality.

Let's walk through the various color codes that illustrate current and planned progress.

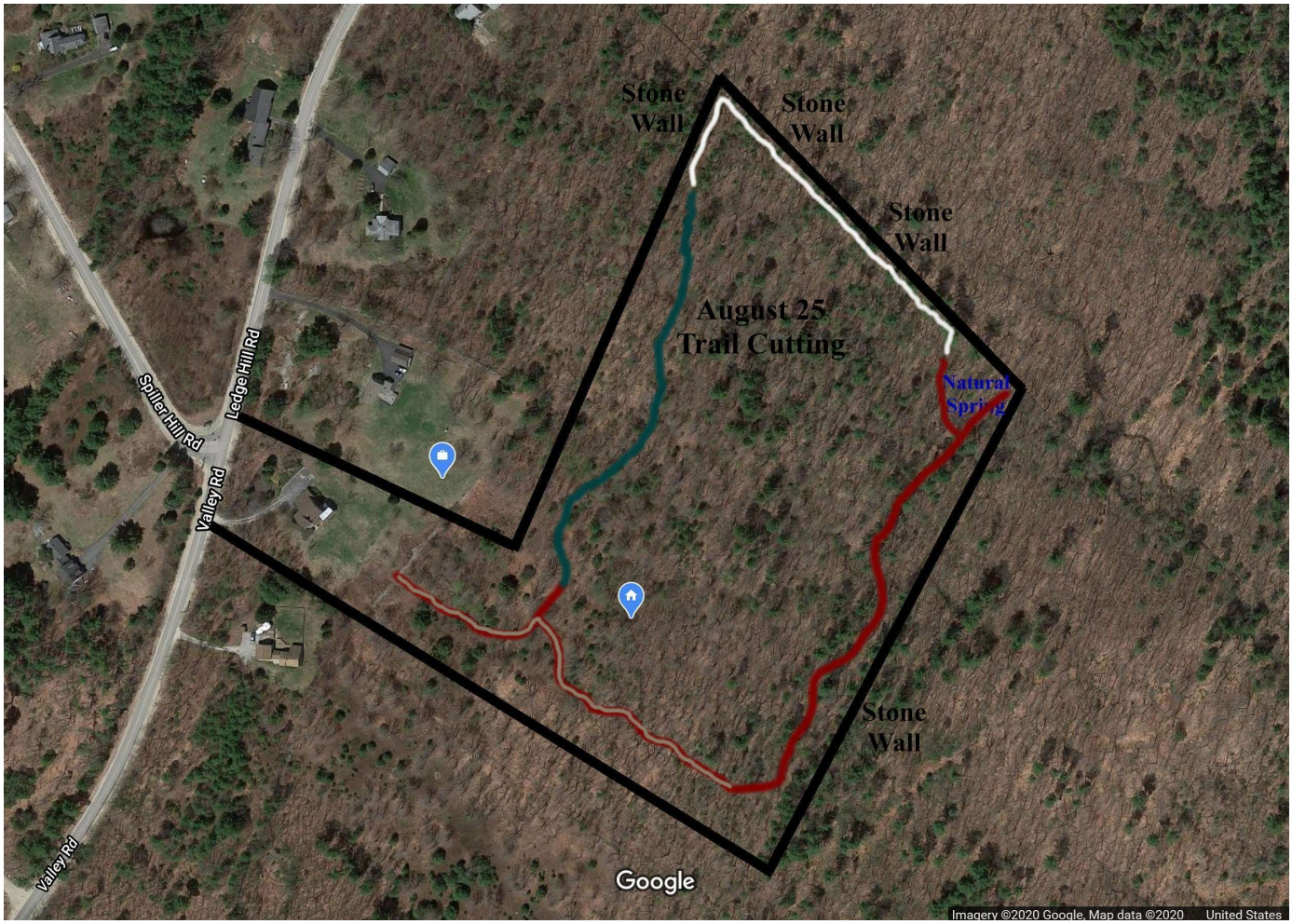
Red - the existing southern trail that takes us to the first natural spring. This trail is in decent shape and easily walkable.

Red with Tan Overlay - the section of trail that has been fully cleaned and overlaid with a 1.5" stone/gravel mix. This is the end goal for the project; a comfortable walking trail with no trip hazards.

Aquamarine - the fresh trail section that was cut on August 25th. This section is rough with protruding roots and depressions everywhere.

White - the September 7 (today's) cutting goal. I am so excited as we will be cutting directly adjacent to naturally aged settler's stone walls that have been undisturbed for over a century. The land direct adjacent to these stone walls appears to be fairly free of boulders and should allow for smoother passage with the excavator. Let's hope that my assumption comes true!

Ledge Hill Trails Project Status - September 7, 2021



Please check back on Wednesday morning to learn how far the trailblazing team was able to move along with images of two beautifully aged stone walls. These walls will be yet another important highlight for those who enjoy the upcoming walking trails.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Time dictates that the Blog be ended here as Dave Wilkinson arrives in one hour. My job is to get the chain saw ready for tree cutting duties before his arrival. The excavator is fueled and ready to go at 8:00 AM.

Thank-you for stopping by at the Daily Blog!

September 6, 2021

Labor Day 2021 - Celebrating the Value of Work in Our Lives

and

Confronting the Steepest Incline Within the Ledge Hill Trails Project

Greetings on Labor Day 2021 and welcome to the Daily Blog. I'm pleased that you could make time for a visit.

The weather and daylight transition is upon us in southern Maine. It is a bit before 6:00 AM with darkness outside the office window. During the summer months, birds would be chirping as the day had already been underway for an hour or more. The cycle of life is readily apparent on this Labor Day morning.

My apology for a Blog edition that is devoid of numismatic items. It is after all Labor Day and a holiday that honors the millions of great Americans who built this wonderful country. Why not stop for a moment and contemplate the importance of this holiday?

Labor Day 2021 - Celebrating the Value of Work in Our Lives

It should be obvious to those who follow the Blog ramblings that I enjoy working. A honest day's work gives life meaning and provides much more than monetary benefits. At the most basic level, having a job provides self esteem. Sharing time with fellow workers teaches life skills and operating in a community with peers. Work enables self reliance with an income to support the basic facts of life; bills for housing, food, clothes and transportation. Work also, by default, enables maturity. As a parent, one of the most important things to teach our children is the relationship of work with securing basic needs and the occasional personal treat.

I've told my personal story, concerning work, to close friends but have never shared in the Blog. For whatever reason, it feels appropriate that I share one of the most important moments of my life today.

Growing up in Lewiston Maine with parents of very modest means meant handling chores. A third of our small property lot was a garden that supplied vegetables on a year round basis. Whatever was not consumed fresh during the summer and autumn months, was canned for storage and consumption during long Maine winters. I worked in the garden as best as I could as a young boy. When becoming a bit older, I would shovel neighbor driveways after every snowstorm. My grandfather had a small lawn mowing business with yours truly being the partner in the adventure. Most summer evenings and Saturday's were consumed working along side my grandfather. While other kids were watching cartoons on Saturday mornings, I was picked up at 7:00 AM for a full day's work. In hindsight, I was so blessed to have my grandfather as a role model and teacher.

When turning 12 years old, my mother sat me down with a stern message. If there were aspirations for a college education, then I must work to raise the monies. In other words, I was going it alone as the family did not have the funds to support such an expense. My father's formal education ended at 6th grade while my mother reached the 10th grade. As second generation French-Canadian immigrants, it was necessary to go to work in the mills at a young age for self support.

In hindsight, that conversation was a transformational moment. Yes, I badly wished to leave Lewiston and a life of texture mills and shoe shops. I walked away for baseball and other after school activities and found jobs throughout high school years and the summer vacation months. More time was allocated to my grandfather's business along with working as an after school janitor. Sadly, my grandfather had a major stroke when I turned 14. There were short stints in non air-conditioned shoe shops and at Bates textile mill unloading cotton bales from train freight cars. Unfortunately, I was allergic to cotton dust and had to quit that job much to my father's disgrace. During the latter high school years, I landed a dream job working in a record shop after school and on Saturdays,

By the time I was 18 years old, I had amassed all of $2000 and applied to a single college; University of Maine at Orono. I planned to become an electrical engineer and move away from Maine. My high school grades were near the top of the class therefore accepted. The $2000 would last only two years which dictated finding work on the college campus. I immediately found a position in the dining hall washing dishes and pans to help pay for room and board. I worked in a retailer chain store warehouse for several summers unloading tractor trailers. Transport was riding my bike three miles one way in sun and rain. To fund my final two years of college, I secure a Resident Assistant position which paid for room and board expenses. Tuition was funded by summer work and a little borrowing. Come January of senior year, I was hired by IBM. However, I was out of money and worked as a university janitor cleaning and painting buildings during school breaks that final college year.

There is no question that my mother's stern conversation made the man that I am today. Hard work brings self esteem and allows for reaching for whatever goal you believe is attainable. I truly feel sad for the many in our society who shun work and have an entitlement attitude. Being born does not mean entitlement. Being on this planet requires adding value to society to survive.

Hopefully, this monologue will aid the many readers comprehend the intensity by which I manage GFRC and now, building the Ledge Hill Trails project. Workers can reach for the stars. It is up to each of us to make the most in a life without blaming others for mistakes, misfortunes, or setbacks. We are in control of our destiny.

Happy Labor Day 2021.

Confronting the Steepest Incline Within the Ledge Hill Trails Project

After publishing Sunday's Blog edition, much of the day was allocated to the Ledge Hill Trails project.

The day's challenge was confronting the steepest incline on the southern trail and building a level pathway for back and forth JD2025R movement.

During Dave Wilkinson's last visit, he was asked to clear out the pathway with his excavator. Excavators are brute force machines and not capable of finish work. Dave's effort was notable and enable the construction of a solid 1.5" stone and gravel lined path.

When facing the steep incline with the JD2025R, there were concerns and quiet fears. Rolling a tractor deep in the woods was to be avoided at all costs. I approached the day's work with utmost caution. First came the application of a 1.5" stone base to smooth out the terrain and provide solid footing for the tractor. Next came the application of 1.5" gravel to fill in over the base. Bucket load by bucket load, the pathway was constructed.

Below is an image taken as I am about to descend down the incline. One can see the initially applied 1.5" stone base with the overlaid gravel in front of the tractor.

Confronting the Steepest Incline Within the Ledge Hill Trails Project

Looking Up from the Bottom of Incline

The above image does not accurately communicate the test being faced by a new tractor owner. To drive home the point for my caution, the below image was taken at the top of the incline and illustrates the challenge from the JD2025R's driver's seat. Not only was the cut trail steep but also sloping downward to the right. Not shown in the image are random holes created when Dave removed large rocks and did not completely backfill those depressions. Dropping a loaded back wheel into one of those holes could bring about a rollover.

View from the JD2025R Driver's Seat - Full Attention Required

I worked on this trail segment from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM and pleased to share an image of the finished product. This image captures a subset of the lined trail as I nearly reached the southern property line before calling it a day. Yes, basic tools like a rake and root cutters were critical given the limited maneuvering room on the steep incline. It was quickly learned to employ the rake for completing the pathway edges rather than employing the tractor.

The Finished Product!

Dave Wilkinson is back today with another load of 1.5" gravel. Tuesday brings a full trail cutting day with the excavator. We will complete the northern trail and head southeast towards the natural spring. Who knows how far we will move in one day's time but hopefully, the trail cutting will be simplified by staying close to two addition large settler's stone walls. There will be many images of these walls come Wednesday's Blog.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Today brings a nearly full day in the GFRC office. The weather will be conducive to working in the back acreage but attention must be placed on the GFRC business given Tuesday's full day in the woods.

I hope that you've enjoyed today's Blog edition. Be well!

September 5, 2021

Important S-Mint Liberty Seated Halves from the San Jose Collection

Greetings once again on a Labor Day weekend and welcome to more numismatic ramblings.

Today's edition will be brief as I've spent the early morning hours preparing an important San Francisco Liberty Seated half dollar consignment from the San Jose Collection. Diane and I went out to dinner on Saturday evening, and once back home, I just could not bringing myself to conduct image processing and die variety attributions. Instead, an early bedtime seemed to make sense to enable a 5:00 AM time back in the GFRC office. The plan did work as demonstrated by yet another fine Liberty Seated half dollar offering.

The San Jose Collection consignor was an early GFRC client dating back to the 2015 time frame. After a consignment hiatus that spanned years, our dear friend is back with another noteworthy Seated half dollar release that should garner attention. These pieces have been off the market for at least 15-20 years based on the old TPG holders and dealer stickers that I still can recognize from my own collecting days.

There are several important die varieties in this offering.

Let's start with the 1861-S PCGS AU55 offering. The consignor has attributed as WB-11 R7, a new variety identified by Bugert. My own assessment sees the obverse diagnostics matching WB-11 (clashing), but the reverse lacks late die state die cracks. Interestingly, this piece does not match any listing by Bugert.

The 1874-S WB-2 is listed an R5 rarity by Bugert with the attribution confirmed. The 1877-S half, that is housed in NGC EF45 holder, has been validated as WB-25 which is a Type 1 over Type 2 transition reverse. Bugert also lists this die variety as R5 rarity.

Let's not forget the rare 1857-S WB-3 offering that is missing from many date and mintmark collections. This example is nice and original with frosted luster as the certified grade. The images are accurate other than some slight amplification of the green hues.

Important S-Mint Seated Halves from the San Jose Collection

Please Email for Price Quote - Loading to Price List on Monday

1857-S WB-3 PCGS EF45 50C

1861-S Unlisted PCGS AU55 50C

1863-S WB-3 NGC AU58 50C

1868-S WB-3 PCGS AU58 50C

1859-S WB-7 Raw AU58 50C **1861-S WB-3 Raw AU55 50C** **1872-S WB-3 NGC AU50 50C**

1874-S WB-2 ANACS EF40 OWH 50C **1877-S WB-2 Raw AU58 50C** **1877-S WB-25 NGC EF45 50C**

All pieces are currently available for price quotations. Pricing the unlisted 1861-S AU55 example will be challenging and will take time. All other offerings are straightforward.

If there is interest, please send all an email request. Your requests will be responded to during the later afternoon hours.

Ledge Hill Trails Development Day!

Once today's Blog is uploaded, the plan is to spend the next six hours working on the Ledge Hills Trails project. With about 15 yards of 1.5" gravel and 1.5" stone, there is ample material to extend the southern trail further towards the first natural spring. Let's remember this is a Sunday during Labor Day weekend with a reasonable expectation for some time away from the GFRC office.

Therefore, I am wrapping up at this point and will return to the office about 3:00 PM to catch-up with email correspondence including price quote requests for the above San Jose offerings.

Thanks again for checking in at the Daily Blog. Wishing everyone a pleasant Labor Day weekend.

September 4, 2021

Does the Numismatic Market Need Another TPG Approval Company?

Greetings on Labor Day weekend and welcome to the Blog.

Little was prepared for today's edition as most of Friday was spent working in the back acreage. Upon checking morning emails, a customer responded to a recent request for numismatic questions. Talk about timely! But first, a brief report on yesterday's adventures.

Have you ever attempted to burn a substantial brush pile with swirling 10-12 mph winds? That was the dilemma faced yesterday morning. As mentioned in Friday's Blog edition, northwest winds are ideal for burning as the smoke is blown directly into the forest and not bothering Diane in the homestead and neighbors. I was on the fence during the morning hours as winds were gusty. Why not let the Raymond fire department make the decision? That I did and drove down to the fire house where they promptly granted my burning request. Armed with a piece of paper, the next step was risk mitigation. Buckets of water were brought down to the settler's stone wall at 12:30 PM. My gut still said the winds were too brisk to burn. Instead, the next two hours were spent hauling more gravel down to the southern walking trail. Upon one of the return trips to secure another front loader full of gravel, I noticed that neighbor Rick was home mowing the lawn with his Kubota tractor. Rick works at a large outdoor camp on Sebago Lake (a retirement job) and is a pro at dropping trees and burning brush.

Rick is a daring individual with respect to burning brush and is *a bigger the pile, the better* type of person. Even he was concerned with the wind speed but agreed to help monitor the burn and chase down any flying ambers. Luckily, the brush pile was mostly hardwoods and a few stumps with hardly any leaves that could be captured by the winds. We cautiously started the fire opposite the wind direction to ensure a slow controlled burn. To make a long story short, the burning event was uneventful as the fire spread through the pile slowly and required more kerosene to ignite the hardwoods.

The only casualty of the day was a piston fitting on the front grapple. The fitting were experiencing a very slow leak that erupted into a hydraulic spray towards the end of the afternoon. Many branches had been pulled for the acreage and dumped on the fire. The heating of the fitting probably brought metal fatigue and a crack. A new fitting will be ordered from Hall Implement and replaced in the coming weeks.

Does the Numismatic Market Need Another TPG Approval Company?

Last evening, an email arrived from a GFRC client with a link to a new "sticker approval" company launched by Barry Stuppler. The service is named "PQ Approved" with Don Kettering as the Chief Grader. The website can be found at this link.

https://www.pqapproved.com/

A review of the website revealed a first pass attempt at population reports that are unpopulated except for a few U.S. gold entries. There are submission links, of course.

The approval criteria is quite restrictive and listed as follows:

- Great Eye Appeal!
- Only PCGS and NGC Certified Coins!
- Excellent Strike!
- Great Mint Luster!
- No Major Copper Or Carbon Spots!
- Above Average for the Grade!
- No Major Mint Defects!
- No Ugly Toning!

Sure, the evaluation of coins is a subjective exercise but when seeing terms like "great", "excellent", and "no major" in the evaluation criteria, I was immediately leery. The next step was reviewing the explanation of each criteria. I had to laugh when reading the "Great Mint Luster" criteria with the word "shine" is employed instead of luster. Yes, we all love shiny coins! I wonder who wrote this description and their experience in the hobby? It should be obvious that neither Stuppler or Kettering took the time to document their evaluation parameters.

Ever wondered if a coin still has its original shine, or if the reflection is better than a typical coin from that same mintage? You'll be happy to know that all PQ coins have passed our PQ Approved Mint Luster Standards. Each coin is individually reviewed and compared to similar coins from the same mintage to make sure all PQ coins have a shine you can be proud of!

My first impression is that Stuppler and Kettering are attempting to leverage the market and branding that John Albanese has already constructed with CAC. Why not start another evaluation service that reviews CAC approved coins and stickers a subset? Let's be realistic here. Nearly all of the traded coins in the marketplace have already been to CAC at least once. Those that are approved by CAC are the top end of the distribution with just a few outliers that are unavoidable when reviewing millions of coins.

Reading the PQ Approved criteria, I noted two criteria that Stuppler and Kettering can leverage. Those are strike and ugly toning. We are well aware that the TPGs and CAC are not interested in strike. CAC will also sticker heavily toned silver coins that are crusty and without eye appeal. I see few coins with major mint defects so this criteria is mostly a filler.

Bottom line, PQ Approved appears to be attempting to sticker a fraction of the CAC approved coins in the market followed by becoming a market maker for those coins. That is where the real money is for these individuals.

Are Stuppler and Kettering attempting to solve a numismatic marketplace issue? Doubtful, and I'm not impressed. Again, be leery of solutions in search of problems.

Working on a Fresh Liberty Seated Half Dollar Consignment

Today's focus shifts to a fresh San Francisco minted Liberty Seated half dollar consignment from a 2015 era GFRC consignor. The pricing stickers indicate that the coins have been off the market for 15-20 years. The consignment totals ten coins and includes these dates; 1857-S, 1859-S, 1861-S (2), 1863-S, 1868-S, 1872-S, 1874-S, and 1877-S (2). One of the two 1861-S is a rare WB-11 and one of the 1877-S is WB-25 with transitional reverse. Grades are all EF45 through AU58 with seven of the ten being TPG graded. These are solid quality coins.

The processing will go quickly as southern Maine weather will bring bright sunshine along with the consignor giving me authority to price the coins without his approval.

Consignments Being Solicited

Just an ongoing reminder that there is ample consignment processing bandwidth during September if you wish to divest coins. I would be pleased to speak with you concerning this topic and how GFRC can be of service.

Wrapping up the Blog

Today brings a heavy shipment morning. After the ill fated FedEx experience, I've become sensitive to Friday shipments that spend an extra day in the USPS system over the weekend. Friday shipments are being delayed until Saturday as a new policy. At GFRC, we are constantly fine tuning the service parameters to ensure the best possible customer experience.

Wishing everyone a fantastic Labor Day holiday weekend! Be well.

September 3, 2021

New Consignor Joins GFRC - Superbly Toned Type!

and

The Boys Hanging Out for Monday's Trail Building

Greetings and welcome to the Daily Blog on a Friday morning. Thank-you for checking in.

The Labor Day weekend is upon us which marks the official end of summer here in the northeast. During past years, I would be attending the Central Ohio coin show during the Labor Day weekend. However, the road trip from Maine to Columbus, Ohio and back takes too much time away from the office and the back acreage project. GFRC's next show will

be NH Coin Expo that takes place in Manchester at the end of the month. Dan and I are certainly looking forward to that event.

Now that Ida has passed through southern Maine, the wind direction has shifted to the northwest. Why is this important? Northwest winds are ideal for burning the huge brush pile. The resulting smoke will be directed into the forest and away from neighbors and the homestead. Therefore, I will be taking the afternoon off from the GFRC office and burning the existing pile along with other dried out branches that still litter the primary pathway within the back acreage project.

Another Gem Seth Godin Blogpost

Before we move forward with numismatic news and other ramblings, let's share a blogpost from Seth Godin that accurately explains what has happened to society as a result of technology advancements and corresponding business model changes during our lifetimes. The key point is that businesses adapt to technology developments to survive. Capitalism is a never ending race among participants. Unfortunately, or fortunately depending on your perspective, those viewing the race are caught up within ever changing information delivery and the impacts on core culture.

Sometimes, it is important to thoroughly understand what is happening to us as a basis for coping or modifying our expectations. Personally, I have become much more cynical of online content and any email that appears in the Inbox. Cynicism is important in an age where we are overrun by content issued by a host of companies and individuals with *for profit* motives. Click-bait headlines are just one example. True altruism is a precious commodity.

Seth Godin Blogpost - We get what the business model wants

The model for TV in the 1960s was three major networks supported by mass advertising. And so the shows that were produced were banal, reassuring and fairly inexpensive to produce. The goal was simply to keep someone from watching the other two channels.

The business model in the Netflix age, with multiple streaming channels racing to gain market share among affluent consumers with a surfeit of choice, is fundamentally different. And as a result, so is the content being produced.

It's not that the TV people wanted to watch suddenly changed–it's that the economic model for delivering it did.

The business model for news has changed, and so the news has. Not what's happening in the world, but the way the internet reports it.

The business model for all the lifestyle (health, gossip, etc.) filler we see has changed as well. And so it goes…

And for many people, the biggest change is this: **the business model of social networks has replaced the simple act of being in community.**

New Consignor Joins GFRC - Superbly Toned Type!

This week marks another GFRC client transitioning from customer to consignor. The following initial consignment brings superbly toned type pieces with awesome eye appeal. Last evening order rate was impressive with multiple requests for many of these offerings.

Please note that the 1939 PCGS MS66 Mercury dime IS NOT a Full Band piece. The below title line is accurate while the listing on the price list was the victim of Excel auto fill when I typed in the MS66 certification. Excel auto filled MS66FB and I did not catch this error until five individuals ordered the coin last evening. As a result, we will start over for this piece with the first person having the option to play or pass as an MS66 only. If taking the time to look at the images, it should be apparent that this dime is not FB as is the offer price. There is no Santa Claus in numismatics....

All that remains available from these offerings are the 1876 PCGS MS63 double dime (a bargain for the eye appeal and strike) and the 1956-D Washington quarter.

New Consignor Joins GFRC - Superbly Toned Type!

1876 PCGS MS63 20C **1807 PCGS VF30 CAC 25C**

1926 PCGS AU58FH CAC 25C **1882-S PCGS MS65 CAC $1**

1939 PCGS MS66 CAC 10C **1956-D NGC MS66 CAC Fatty 25C**

The Boys Hanging Out for Monday's Trail Building

The Fortin's are blessed to have long term relationships with outstanding contractors. Pete Theberge and Dave Wilkinson are capable and trustworthy individuals that became friends during the course of their working events at the homestead. There is never a question about workmanship and timeliness. These individuals share the same goals as we do and work accordingly.

Yesterday brought the realization that Dave Wilkinson had brought the excavator back to the property. There were no phone calls, just the tool appearing on the property at his convenience for staging Monday's next round of trail cutting. I could not resist snapping an image of the "boys" hanging out by the second homestead entrance waiting to be called into action. Of course, the John Deere will be outfitted with the grapple today for the brush pile burning event (if burning permit is granted).

The Boys Hanging Out for Monday's Trail Building

Hound Dog Dan Buys Another Early $5 Gold Lot

I'm pleased to report that Dan White has managed to secure another eleven piece early $5 gold lot that is mostly mid-grade circulated pieces. We are working hard to sustain the U.S. gold price list at the 100 offering threshold with these reinforcements being most timely.

The lot will ship to the GFRC office next week. Please keep checking the Blog for updates.

Global Financial News

Today brings the last trading day before the long Labor Day weekend. U.S. markets continue to perform a slow upward trending dance as economic indices reflect a recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. The S&P 500 presents stands at 4,537 and appears poised to achieve the 4600 milestone during early fourth quarter, if not sooner.

Following are morning market futures courtesy of Seeking Alpha. U.S. markets will open with an upward bias to close out the trading week.

In Asia, Japan +2.1%. Hong Kong -0.7%. China -0.4%. India +0.6%.

In Europe, at midday, London +0.1%. Paris -0.4%. Frankfurt +0.1%.

Futures at 6:20, Dow +0.2%. S&P +0.2%. NASDAQ +0.2%.

WTI crude has jumped to $70.13/bbl during the overnight. My expectation is for higher crude prices by end of year unless we suffer another significant Covid-19 mutation.

Paper gold continues to hold the $1815/oz level while Bitcoin is back over the $50,000 mark, but barely.

The 10 Year U.S. Treasury yield is quoting at 1.3%. All appears economically fine as we enter the autumn season.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Initial September orders have been beyond expectations and I could not be more pleased.

The morning hours bring shipping and several lay-a-way invoices along with responding to overnight orders. Hopefully by 11:00 AM, I will be heading to the Raymond Fire House for a burning permit.

Wishing everyone a pleasant Labor Day holiday weekend. Yes, I will be at the homestead and composing Blog editions throughout the weekend.

Thanks again be checking in. Be well!

September 2, 2021

Announcing Oregon Beaver Part 1 *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Lots

Final Installment of Twin Lakes' PCGS MS64RB CAC Lincoln Cents Posted

and

No Jury Duty Through September - Consignment Window Is Wide Open

Greetings on a wet southern Maine early morning and welcome to another Blog edition. Thanks for stopping by!

Yes, Ida has made its way into the Northeast and still packing a decent wind speed and ample amounts of rain. As the Blog is written at 6:00 AM, dawn has arrived with the large front yard oaks swaying in 15 mph winds. This is shaping up to be a cold wet day with temperatures only reaching the mid-60s. What a perfect day to spend in the GFRC office.

Luck was on my side on Wednesday during the Federal District Court jury selection process. One astute GFRC client sent along an email suggesting that I wear a full suit to jury selection and I did. Talk about feeling out of place among the other 60 or so individuals who were casually dressed. Your host stood out like a sore thumb but was not selected for the first round of 14 potential jurors and sequentially not selected as a replacement. The forthcoming case is a civil matter; unlawful termination due to racial discrimination. The jury selection process and questioning was communicated as being completely unbiased. However, potential jurists who are/were managers and have placed a subordinate on a correct action plan or dismissal didn't do well during the screening process. I would have been a terrible jurist given my years of managing large organizations and terminating a fair number of non-performers.

Dismissal from the court occurred at noon and by 1:30 PM, I was back in the office working through the last installment of the Twin Lakes PCGS MS64RB Lincoln cents and handling a fair amount of orders. Let's just say that September is off to a great sales start. The evening hours brought Oregon Beaver graphics duties with the end product being today's featured GFRC Online Auctions banner and a newly formatted advertisement for the September *E-Gobrecht*.

Even Linda, the Raymond Postmaster, worked late and personally delivered an Express shipment to my door at 6:15 PM. Does anyone need an 1855-S PCGS EF45 Liberty Seated half dollar that is freshly graded? How about a beautifully toned 1876 double dime graded PCGS MS63? Yes, these are new purchases coming soon to the price list.

Announcing Oregon Beaver Part 1 *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Lots

I am most pleased to announce the forthcoming Oregon Beaver lots that will be offered in the Part 1 auction sale. Frankly, there are a host of awesome halves that would provide excellent upgrading potential for your advanced collection.

The online and PDF catalogs will be published on September 10 with bidding opening on September 25. The two week preview period is by design and allows those among us in the community to prepare monies. If you need to raise cash on

a near term basis, please consider offering GFRC your duplicates or unwanted items. I will do my best to pay fair and establish a trading desk credit balance for the upcoming Oregon Beaver sales.

Clearly, the 1840 WB-1 PCGS MS65 CAC half is the highlight of the combined Oregon Beaver sales. This beautiful piece has been selected as the plate coin for the Part 1 auction sale banner. Below is a highlights gallery for consideration. All Part 1 sale lots are listed in the scrollable table at the top right of the Blog page. Are there any other questions concerning this sale? If so, please email me. Reserves will be posted on September 10.

The Oregon Beaver *Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale* Part 1 Highlights

1840 WB-1, Reverse of 1839, PCGS MS65 CAC 50C

1839 Drapery WB-7 NGC MS63 CAC 50C **1845 WB-2 PCGS AU58 CAC 50C**

1846-O WB-5 Medium Date PCGS MS64 50C **1846 Tall Date WB-13 PCGS MS63 50C**

1849 WB-10 MS63 CAC 50C **1850 WB-2 PCGS MS63 50C**

1852 WB-2 NGC AU55 CAC 50C **1863 PCGS AU58 CAC 50C**

1871-CC WB-6 NGC VF30 50C **1873-CC WB-4 NGC AU58 50C**

Final Installment of Twin Lakes' PCGS MS64RB CAC Lincoln Cents Posted

Lincoln cent fans might wish to check the price list as the last eleven Twin Lakes Collection PCGS MS64RB offerings are posted. Most are CAC approved with some nice gems intermixed in the group. These are inexpensive items for your shopping enjoyment. Below are two highlights that showcase different copper metal colorings.

Final Installment of Twin Lakes' PCGS MS64RB CAC Lincoln Cents Posted

Several Highlights

1920 PCGS MS64RB CAC 1C **1922-D PCGS MS64RB CAC 1C**

No Jury Duty Through September - Consignment Window Is Wide Open

I'm a free man with respect to jury duty in September and must report back to the court on October 4 for another selection process. You can bet that I will wear a full suit again!

Seriously, September is a wide open month for working in the GFRC office and the Ledge Hill Trails development project. Life could not be any better.

The consignment queue is meager as this point. There is a raw 20 piece Capped Bust half dime lot that will be processed next week along with whatever arrives in the coming days. If there are no near term consignments, I will be back to offering Liberty Seated dimes from my reference collection.

GFRC is is need of quality consignments, plain and simple. Your consideration of this request is appreciated.

Updates from the Homestead

Pete Theberge is making good progress with the construction of the expanded back deck. Wednesday brought the nailing of nearly all the composite flooring. Remaining is the installation of the side railings followed by removing the ceiling materials under the sun room.

Once the construction is completed and just in time for the autumn foliage season, the landscaping effort shifts to yours truly. The old 1985 vintage paver blocks will be removed and relocated someone in the Ledge Hill Trails project as a base for storing JD2025R implements. New modern paver blocks will be selected by Diane and installed followed by finishing the edges with 1/2" stone. Thank goodness for the John Deere tractor to speed along these incremental projects.

Homestead Back Deck Construction Progress

While walking behind the homestead to capture the above picture, I noticed a rafter of turkeys hanging out on the main pathway just beyond the settler's stone wall. I was able to move fairly close for the below image.

Did you know that a "flock" of turkeys is properly referred to as a "rafter"? One does learn something new each day when preparing the Blog.

A Rafter of Wild Turkeys Hanging Out in Back Acreage

Global Financial News

Global equity markets are flashing a consistent green this morning with U.S. markets showing a slight upward bias for the opening 9:30 AM bell. Wednesday's trading action saw markets holding at or near record levels.

In Asia, Japan +0.3%. Hong Kong +0.2%. China +0.8%. India +0.9%.

In Europe, at midday, London flat. Paris +0.1%. Frankfurt flat.

Futures at 6:20, Dow +0.2%. S&P +0.2%. NASDAQ +0.2%.

Bitcoin is the morning star having increased to $49,817. WTI crude continues to trade sideways at $68.79/bbl while paper gold is holding current gains at $1819/oz.

The 10 Year U.S. Treasury yield stands at 1.28%.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Are there any numismatic questions that you wish to have answered in the Blog? If so, please send along via email. I will do my best to respond during the month of September.

While sitting around for jury selection, I read the latest *Gobrecht Journal* issue from cover to cover. Kudos go out to LSCC President Len Augsburger for taking over the editorial and publishing helm along with writing several well researched articles. I found the article on 1838-O Liberty Seated dime mintage to be most interesting. Guide book are indeed that, guides. They may not be 100% accurate given the enormous amount of content that is difficult to properly vet.

Thanks for checking in at the Blog. Be well!

September 1, 2021

Jury Selection Commitment Today!

Noteworthy Oregon Beaver Consigned Offerings

and

Ledge Hill Trail Building in the Back Acreage

Greetings on a Tuesday evening. Unfortunately, I must report for jury selection to the Portland Federal District courthouse on Wednesday morning at 8:00 AM. This means writing two Blog editions in a single day with not much news to report across a twelve hour period.

After working in the GFRC office from 6:00 AM to 4:00 PM, a short break on the JD2025R was in order. For those who called between 4:00 and 6:00 PM, I was down in the back acreage continuing to make progress with the southern trail that leads to the first natural spring.

It was a busy day at the homestead as Peter Theberge framed out the new back deck and returns on Wednesday to start applying the composite flooring.

Dave Wilkinson also brought 12 yards of 1.5" gravel along with another load of pure 1.5" stone. Delivery was down inside the Ledge Hill Trails job site to minimize material transport time on the JD2025R.

A reminder that I will be off line today with respect to cellphone and internet access. Emails and phone calls will be responded to this evening.

Oregon Beaver's Latest Consigned Offerings

In addition to Monday's 54 piece Liberty Seated half dollar forthcoming auction, the Oregon Beaver consignor is also divesting more $2.5 gold and a few random other offerings.

The highlights of the $2.5 duplicates release are an 1845 Dahlonega struck example along with a rare 1872-S PCGS MS61 $2.5 at grade. 1877 and 1886 PCGS AU58 $2.5 specimens round out the gold offerings.

Noteworthy Oregon Beaver Consigned Offerings

Please Email for Price Quote - Posting on Thursday

1845-D PCGS EF45 G$2.5

1872-S PCGS MS61 G$2.5

1877 PCGS AU58 G$2.5

1886 PCGS AU58 CAC G$2.5

1931-S PCGS MS64RB 1C **1911 PCGS AU55 50C** **1914 PCGS F15 CAC 50C**

Ledge Hill Trail Building in the Back Acreage

Slow incremental progress continues to be made lining the southern trail that takes us down to the first natural spring. Allocating two hours daily from a busy GFRC office schedule is beginning to bring about notable progress.

I stepped out of the office today at 4:00 PM and worked until a bit before 6:00 PM. Trail lining with 1.5" gravel and supplemental stone continued on the steeper portion of the trail. The following image accurately captures the trail condition after Dave Wilkinson's leveling process and incremental rock removal. His actions saved me countless hours on the small JD2025R backhoe attempting to dig out large rocks and shifting dirt on a sloping grade. Protruding roots are a constant issue in the forest. The southern trail is being lined with several inches of gravel followed by being packed down by the JD2025R ongoing movement of incremental gravel further downhill. The outcome is a nicely compressed surface for a hiking path. Hopefully the embedded "bone" or 1.5" stone will hold the gravel together during heavy rains and the spring snow melt.

Wrapping Up The Blog

Diane will be handling GFRC outgoing shipments on Wednesday since traveling to Portland for an 8:00 AM jurist appointment. I was up early staging the shipments to ensure customer service continuity. Thursday brings a second day of potential civic jury duty. As a result, I will be responding to email and phone orders once back home each day.

Your patience is appreciated while placing this commitment behind me.

Thanks for checking in at the Blog. Be well!

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